FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 DECEMBER 1984

Lebanon

Al-Naqurah Talks — At the end of the 11th round of talks in Al-Naqurah, Israel demanded positive results to its suggestions when the talks are resumed on 7 January, adding that if there is no progress it will have to consider whether to continue, IDF radio reported. To prevent the talks' failure, the UN secretary general promised Israel's UN ambassador that he would approach the Lebanese Government, Jerusalem radio disclosed. The radio also noted Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' declaration that Israel has not yet despaired of achieving a settlement, but it will not let the talks become empty ceremonies. Similarly, the head of the IDF liaison unit in Lebanon contended that it is too early to consider the Al-Naqurah meetings finished, ITIM reported, also noting his assertion that conditions in northern Galilee could be "satisfactory" after a unilateral withdrawal, even if the withdrawal is short of the international border.

Meanwhile, Lebanese Minister of State for the South and Reconstruction Nabih Birri described U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's contacts as an attempt to circumvent the Al-Naqurah talks and to reach an agreement that will allow UNIFIL deployment north of the Al-Litani River, Beirut radio disclosed.

Car Bomb — More than 30 people were killed or wounded when a car bomb exploded in a Druze Forces' barracks in the town of Ra's al-Matn, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio reported, adding that the explosion occurred as "gunmen" were rigging four cars.

ICO

At the 19 December closed-door session of the ICO foreign ministers' conference, Egypt threatened to reveal evidence of Iranian cooperation with Israel and of its relations with other sides opposed to Islam, according to sources cited by KUNA. As for the conference's draft resolution, ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti announced that the draft document will find UN Resolution 242 incompatible with Palestinian rights and will reject the U.S. President's peace plan, AFP reported.

Terrorism

Baghdad Blast Arrest — The Iraqi authorities have arrested those responsible for a 12 December bomb explosion in Baghdad and the culprits have admitted that they obtained their explosives from Iran through Syria, according to an Iraqi security statement cited by INA. In Damascus, SANA's political editor denied the Iraqi allegation of Syrian involvement, asserting that Iraq's accusations are a cover for its mounting internal crisis, Damascus radio reported.

Khamene'i on U.S. Instigation Charges — Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i, claiming that the United States has threatened retaliation against Iran if Muslims attack U.S. or Israeli locations in southern Lebanon, declared that the Lebanese do not need any Iranian instigation but can act independently, Tehran radio reported.

Revolutionary Armed Lebanese Factions (RALF) — The RALF has been partially dismantled with the arrest of three of its members, according to sources in Paris cited by AFP. The group has claimed responsibility for three attacks in Paris, the agency noted: the attempted assassination of the U.S. ambassador in 1981, the shooting of a U.S. Embassy military attache in 1982, and the shooting of an Israeli Embassy second secretary in the same year. The arrested suspects are all from the same Syrian-controlled village in north Lebanon, according to AFP.

Libya

In a Mallorca press conference, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asserted that there have been no Libyan soldiers in Chad since the French-Libyan statement was published on 10 November, adding that anyone who wants may go there and see for himself, AFP reported. French and Greek officers were in Tripoli waiting to enter northern Chad to check for Libyan troops, the agency noted, citing a statement by French Defense Minister Charles Hernu. However, Chad rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei said that no French observers would be allowed to inspect northern Chad despite Al-Qadhdhafi's proposal, AFP disclosed in a later report.

Meanwhile, Greek Deputy Defense Minister Pavsanias Zalolikos arrived in Tripoli and held a "working session" with Armed Forces Chief Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, JANA revealed.

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WAKH: Three PLO Weapons Factories Established

GF201024 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Doha, 20 Dec (WAKH) — Press information published in Doha today said that the PLO has managed to establish three weapon factories thus far, producing RPG rockets, SPG-9 antitank rockets, Simonov rifles, and Katyusha rockets.

The *AL-RAYAH* newspaper, which published the report supported with pictures, explained that the products of the three factories have started reaching fighters in southern Lebanon and the occupied territories after all Palestinian fighters who live in temporary camps in a number of Arab countries were supplied with these arms.

The paper added that these factories include, in addition to Palestinian technicians, a number of Arab war industry experts who were delegated by the leaders of their armies to receive weapons manufacturing training in the Palestinian factories.

Fatah Dissidents Allegedly Detained in Tunis

JN201157 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Yesterday, Fatah dissidents asked Tunis not to allow PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to use Tunisian territory for detention camps for the Palestinian strugglers who oppose his policy. The dissdents called on the socialist countries not to be deceived by the policy of Yasir 'Arafat and his supporters.

At a news conference held in the WAFA office in Damascus, Talib 'Amru, who was first secretary at the PLO office in Poland and who recently arrived in Damascus from Tunis, asserted that a great number of Palestinian fighters are being detained in Hammam al-Shat and Wadi al-Zarqa in Tunis. Talib 'Amru asserted that he himself was under detention in Tunis and was freed thanks to the personal mediation of PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

PFLP Warns of 'New U.S. Moves' in Arab Region

LD201105 Tripoli JANA in English 0950 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal 27, Dec. 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The PFLP warned against the danger of the new American moves in the Arab region aiming at liquidating the Palestinian cause and imposing defeatist schemes and solutions on the region.

The front, in a statement out on 17 December, pointed to the current tour by Richard Murphy, the U.S. assistant secretary of state, in the region after the failure of all American previous attempts which aim to execute its plans and defeatist schemes by imposing them on the Arab region.

The statement indicated that after the humiliating defeat of the American policies and after the re-election of Reagan, the U.S. Government tries, through its envoys and its lackies in the area, to renew its projects, taking advantage of the deteriorating Arab situation and the reactionary Arab collapse which tries nowadays, through the Cairo-Amman axis, to step in in the aim of serving the new American arrangements, also to impose a seige on the states and Arab progressive force which played a positive role during the past stage and confronted American-Zionist schemes and formed a reinforced barricade against it. The statement added that the latest visit by Murphy carries dangerous meanings and implications and is an attempt of blackmail and encirclement of the Arab progressive stand.

The statement stated that America is carrying on its aggressive, support to the Zionist enemy, its attempts to liquidate the Palestinian cause. It went on to say as Richard Murphy is on his tour to the region, the United States is hinting at the use of military force, as has been expressed through the U.S.-Zionist joint naval exercises, through the moves of the U.S. war minister in the region and through America's announcement of its commitment to protect the security of the Zionist entity and to supply it with necessary weapons.

The statement drew attention to information on an American-European plan to confront so-called international terrorism and hitting the pillars of forces resisting American plans and interests. The statement said this information pointed out that a large number of American experts have already arrived in some European and Arab capitals for the sake of planning operations against revolutionary forces in the Arab region, following the increase of attacks against American imperialist targets.

At the end, the statement called for unity among all forces resisting imperialist plans and for the continuation of confrontation to hostile plots.

Nimr Salih Resumes Leadership of Fatah Opposition

GF201704 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 20 Dec 84 pp 1, 16

[Fahd al-Rimawi Amman dispatch]

[Excerpt] *AL-BAYAN* has learned that Nimr Salih, alias Abu Salih, has resumed his leadership duties in the Fatah opposition movement.Reliable sources told *AL-BAYAN* that an expanded meeting took place during the past 2 weeks among the wings of the opposition movement, and reached a general reconciliation and a new leadership distribution. This resulted in the return of Abu Salih, Abu Bakr, Abu 'Ammar Sa'd, Lieutenant General Muhammad Jihad, and Muhammad Abu Mayzar to the supreme positions of the opposition ranks.

Fedayeen Operations in Gaza Strip

JN201732 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The military spokesman of the Palestinian Revolution General Command has stated the following: The Palestinian revolution forces are continuing their operations inside our occupied land against the Israeli enemy on the path to escalating our armed struggle:

1. Using hand grenades, the martyr Mahir al-Burnu group attacked the Israeli military command headquarters in Khan Yunis in occupied Gaza, which is housed in the former Haifa High school for girls, at 0500 on Monday, 10 December 1984. A number of enemy soldiers who were standing at the gates were either killed or wounded. The enemy forces were mobilized, closed roads, and carried out an extensive search. However, our revolutionaries managed to withdraw safely to base.

2. Using hand grenades, the martyr Mahir al-Burnu group attacked an Israeli military vehicle on Friday, 14 December, as it passed in front of the Khan Yunis post office. The vehicle was damaged and three enemy soldiers were wounded. Several enemy military vehicles rushed to the scene and began firing the moment Friday worshippers were coming out of the mosque. Five citizens were wounded and rushed to hospital. The enemy forces stopped traffic and passersby for some time.

3. The martyr Sa'id Sayil group hurled a hand grenade at an Israeli bus as it passed through Herzl Street in Tel Aviv. The bus was carrying a number of military personnel from the aviation school located near Tel Aviv. The enemy said a number of soldiers were wounded during this operation.

Iraqi Official Elected Chairman of OPEC Governors

GF201316 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Indonesian Energy Minister Dr Subroto in Geneva yesterday said that Dr Ramzi Sulayman, an Iraqi oil official, has been appointed as chairman of the OPEC board of governors for next year, replacing the Iran's 'Abbas Hazde.

Oil Ministers Retain Existing Production Ceiling

LD201642 Vienna OPECNA in English 1520 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Geneva, 20 Dec 84 (OPECNA) — OPEC ministers meetings here today decided to maintain the organization's 16 million b/d production ceiling set last October. Conference president Dr Subroto told journalists following this morning's session that the ministers were exploring ways of ensuring that the ceiling was "consistently and strictly" maintained.

A report by OPEC's ministerial Market Monitoring Committee was discussed at the session, attended by observers from non-OPEC countries Mexico, Egypt, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam. The observers are also expected to attend this evening's closed session, when the issue of price differentials between light and heavy crudes will be discussed. The session is scheduled for 5 pm local time.

OPEC Ministers Agree To 'Drastic' Measures

NC201908 Paris AFP in English 1903 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Geneva, Dec 20 (AFP) — OPEC ministers agreed to take "strong and drastic" measures to ensure the respect of OPEC's 16 million barrels a day production limit, but will want to consult their heads of state and government, the conference chairman said late today. The chairman, Dr Subroto of Indonesia, said the year-end conference of OPEC would adjourn tomorrow and would resume on December 27. OPEC ministers are meeting here to consider how to cope with a serious weakening of the world oil market.

GULF AFFAIRS

AFP: Norwegian Tanker Attacked in Gulf

NC211127 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] London, Dec 21 [AFP] — The Norwegian supertanker *Thorshavet* was in flames in the Gulf after being hit by a missile at 0932 GMT today, Lloyd's reported here today. The ship put out a distress signal and at 0948 GMT a radio message was pick up in Bahrain saying that the crew were about to abandon ship, the insurance group said.

The *Thorshavet* left Singapore on December 2 for the Saudi Arabia oil terminal at Ra's Tanura. However, the attack came near the Iranian terminal at Khark island, Lloyd's said. The 233,000 tonne tanker was built in 1976.

KUWAIT

Iran Refuses To Allow Repairs on Hijacked Airbus

GF201700 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Dec 84 p 1

[Excerpt] *AL-QABAS* has learned from well-informed sources that Iran refused admission to a group of technicians, who work for Kuwaiti Airways, to fix the Kuwaiti Airbus that was hijacked on 4 December. These sources told *AL-QABAS* that the technical team which was readied to go to Iran in order to fix the damage caused to the plane *Kazimah* did not leave the country because Iran refused to receive the team. The Iranian authorities did not elaborate as to whether they will allow the return of the Kuwaiti plane.

UAE

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Abu Dhabi 19 Dec

JN201728 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Abu Dhabi from Doha yesterday evening on a visit to the UAE that will last several days. During his visit, he will brief officials in the UAE on the recommendations and resolutions of the 17th PNC session in Amman.

Received by President

GF201038 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received at his resthouse at Sir Bani Yas Island this afternoon Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, who is currently visiting the UAE. WAM learned that Mr Yasir 'Arafat briefed his highness the president on the resolutions of the PNC which convened in Amman recently.

Interviewed in Abu Dhabi

GF200834 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0645 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Dec (WAM) — Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, has praised the fixed principled stand of the UAE toward the just question of the Palestinian people and stressed that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan strongly supports the Palestinian people's struggle to return to their homeland and establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO. Mr 'Arafat described the relations between the UAE and the PLO as strong and firm, noted the message the PNC received from his highness the president during its recent meeting in Amman, and said that this message made a good fraternal impression on the PNC members, expressing sincerely the strength of relations between the UAE and the Palestinian people.

In a statement to WAM, Mr 'Arafat said that he will brief Shaykh Zayid and the officials in the UAE on the results of the 17th session of the PNC and on the current developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas as well as the latest developments of the Zionist oppression against the people and shrines of the occupied territories including the Zionist attempts to Judaize the holy places.

Mr 'Arafat declared that the purpose of his tour of a number of the Arab countries is to call for convening the Arab summit conference as soon as possible and to work with the Arab leaders in order to bolster Arab solidarity in the face of the Zionist onslaught against the Arab nation. He said he will discuss with the Arab leaders current Arab problems in general, including the Iraqi-Iranian war and the efforts being exerted to stop this war. He pointed out that he made a special appeal to both Iraq and Iran at the opening session of the ICO foreign ministers' conference in Sanaa to stop the war between the two countries.

Mr 'Arafat expressed his readiness to visit the Sultanate of Oman if he received an invitation from the leaders of the fraternal country.

He denied reports about the possibility of holding a meeting with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the Spanish island of Majorca, but he described the statement of Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, in which he praised the meeting between Mr 'Arafat and the Italian prime minister recently, as a positive step which we bless, and said: Our hearts are open and we stretch out our arms for all our Arab brothers. Major Jallud had described 'Arafat's meeting with the Italian prime minister as a brave step by Italy, expressive of the size of democratic forces in Italy.

Mr 'Arafat spoke about the future plan of the PLO and said: Escalating the Palestinian military action against the enemy will continue to head the list of the PLO's top priority tasks, because any nation which drops its military option does not deserve to live. He warned that dropping the Arab military option against the enemy will bring the Arab nation into the Israeli arena, stressing that Israel will not give the Arabs or the Palestinians a single foot of land as charity or as a gift.

He pointed out the appeal he made to the Islamic states at the opening of the ICO foreign ministers' conference in Sanaa yesterday to implement the Mecca declaration with regard to liberating the Al-Aqsa Mosque. He said he intends to place their historic and religious responsibilities before the Muslims because liberating Jerusalem is not a Palestinian or Arab responsibility but is the responsibility of all Muslims.

Answering a question about the stand of the United States toward the Palestinian people's question and historic rights in their homeland, he said that contemporary events prove beyond doubt that the American and Israeli stand toward the Palestinian question is one stand, and the closest example is the U.S. and Israeli rejection of the idea of convening an international conference on the Middle East while it was agreed upon by the Arab countries, most of the European countries, China, and the Soviet Union.

He said all UN members supported the resolutions on the Palestinian question issued by the UN General Assembly during the present month except for the United States, Israel, and Canada.

With regard to the failure of the mission of Richard Murphy, U.S. envoy to the Middle East, and the failure to achieve any results from the Al-Naqurah talks between Lebanon and the Israeli enemy, Mr 'Arafat said he had predicted the failure of the mission.

PDRY

PFLP Official Makes Statement, Departs

GF201646 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ali Mustafa, assistant secretary general of the PFLP, today left Aden, following a visit to the PDRY that lasted several days.

Prior to departure, Brother Mustafa made a statement to ANA in which he expressed his appreciation for the efforts made by the YSP leadership at the ceremonies marking 17th anniversary of the PFLP. He said: these efforts expressed the common comradely spirit of struggle and the true, principled stand of the YSP on the Palestinian issue in supporting its national struggle.

He stressed that his meetings with the YSP officials were very important and comprised a number of topical issues in the Palestinian arena and Arab liberation movements.

During his stay in the PDRY, Brother Mustafa participated in the ceremonies marking the 17th anniversary of the PFLP and met with a number of party and state officials with whom he discussed developments on the Palestinian arena. He stressed the struggle relations between the YSP and the PFLP.

He was seen off at the Aden international airport by Brother Rabih Salih Naji, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Central Committee.

YAR

Further Reportage on ICO Ministers Meeting

Resolution Rejects Reagan Plan

NC210843 Paris AFP in English 0836 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Sanaa, Dec 21 (AFP) — A draft resolution will go before Islamic foreign ministers here finding United Nations Resolution 242 incompatible with Palestinian rights, Habib Chatti, secretary-general of the ICO announced today.

Briefing journlalists on the third day of the ICO foreign ministers' meeting, Mr Chatti said the resolution rejected U.S. President Ronald Reagan's 1982 peace plan, but the Political Affairs Committee proposed that all parties to the Middle East dispute be invited to an international peace conference.

Mr. Chatti said the committee urged that the Reagan peace initiative be rejected because it denies Palestinian national rights. The Reagan plan calls for the establishment of a Palestinian entity in association with Jordan on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in return for recognition of Israel's right to exist. But it does not offer the PLO a role in any negotiating process and specifically rules out an independent Palestinian state.

The ICO secretary said the Political Affairs Committee had approved a resolution condemning the United States for its support for Israel representative of the Palestinian people, having the right to participate independently and on an equal footing with all parties in any peace process.

Turning to the war in the Gulf, Mr Chatti said that though the committee had only just begun to discuss the Iran-Iraq war, it was united in its determination to end the fighting.

He said the proposed international Islamic Court of Justice would be called on to play a role in settling the dispute.

Plan To Halt Gulf War Drafted

GF201450 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Dec 84 p 1

[Report from *AL-QABAS* correspondent 'Amid al-Shatti in Sanaa]

[Excerpt] Sources [not further identified] have asserted that the conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries will adopt a decision on the resumption of mediation efforts between Iran and Iraq in order to end the war.

The sources went on to say that the Arab Gulf countries — in association with the Palestinian delegation — are trying to make the conference adopt a draft plan which calls for effecting a 2-month truce between Iraq and Iran; implementing an immediate halt to the tanker war; neutralizing the ports by keeping them away from military operations; and ensuring the safety of the oil and navigation routes.

Subcommittees Approve Iranian Proposals
LD202032 Tehran IRNA in English 1527 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Dec 20, IRNA — Sub-committees of the ICO currently meeting here have approved Iranian proposals on the issue of Palestine and the necessity of re-considering the relations of Islamic countries with the United States. The committees will also discussed Iraqi use of chemical weapons, hijacking, corruption in Islamic countries, and efforts by the Zionist regime to leave isolation. Iranian delegates actively participate in the committees, informed sources said.

SPA Reports on Speeches
LD201042 Riyadh SPA in English 1205 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Dec 19, SPA — Islamic foreign ministers resumed their 15th session here today under the chairmanship of North Yemeni Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali al-Iryani.

A representative of Turkish Cypriot community (Ferar Tokoon), briefed the session on the issue of Cypriot Moslems, stressing the continuation of their struggle till they reach a just solution to the Cyprus problem. He regretted the failure so far to bring about a fair and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict and the continued Zionist occupation of Palestine.

Meanwhile, North Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received in Sanaa last night Islamic foreign ministers from Kuwait, Iraq, Egypt, Libya and Iran. The president also received Pakistani Finance and Economy Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan, who is leading his country's delegation to the session.

Addressing the session, Dr Mohammad al-Sherif, secretary general of the Islamic Propagation Society, said disputes among Moslem countries were affecting the spread of Islamic propagation. He urged for the re-establishment of Islamic solidarity to face challenges threatening the Moslem world.

A number of delegations have delivered speeches underlining the significance of strengthening Islamic solidarity, particularly at this crucial stage. For his part, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi warned against the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and urged for immediate efforts to bring about an end to this conflict. He praised efforts made by the ICO to put an end to the war through peaceful ways. On the other hand, Amin Attas, assistant secretary general of the World Moslem League, called for a return to the principles of Islamic shari'a as the best way of realising Islamic solidarity. He praised the recent application of Islamic shari'a in Pakistan and Sudan. Attas urged the Islamic states to boost cooperation in political, economic and cultural fields.

Further Reports on Speeches
GF210722 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The 15th Islamic foreign ministers' conference ended its evening session at 2200 [1900 GMT] yesterday. During this session speeches were delivered by heads of delegations of a number of participating countries, including the Islamic Organization for Edcuation, Culture and Science; the UAE; Mali; [name indistinct]; Malaysia; the PLO; Oman; Comoros; Sierra Leone; Niger; Jordan; the YAR; [name indistinct]; Syria; Djibouti; Morocco; and [name indistinct].

The conference held an open session in the morning on 20 December and listened to speeches by representatives of Zambia; [name indistinct]; Qatar; Somalia; Algeria; Tunisia; [names indistinct].

Velayati Addresses Conference
LD192322 Tehran IRNA in English 2020 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Dec 19, IRNA — Despite wide support from the superpowers and some regional countries, the Islamic Republic would continue the war with the Iraqi regime until "the roots of aggression are completely eliminated", Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati said here today.

In his address to the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (ICO), Velayati made a stern warning to ICO members on the threat to the Islamic world of the growing trend of reconciliation with the Zionist regime. He proposed a joint move by the member states to sever relations with governments which transfer their embassies to El-Quds (Jerusalem).

He said if the ICO had succeeded in mobilizing the Islamic world to reach common ideals, the Islamic world could not only decide its own fate without superpower interventions but could also play a decisive role in the world economy and politics.

The Iranian foreign minister said the ICO had become inactive and was wholly influenced by the world powers, especially the West, and called for an independent-minded and better organised administration of the organisation.

Here are excerpts from his speech, delivered to the 15th ICO ministerial meeting Wednesday afternoon:

"Despite the fact that the Iraqi regime is receiving complete financial, political and military support from the superpowers and some regional countries, our (Iran's) determination has become firmer than ever to totally eliminate aggression," Velayati said. "Our resistance against the Iraqi aggression stems from our observance of a divine principle which calls upon us to confront (the enemy) until the total elimination of conspiracy and until the cutting of the roots of aggression."

He said: "No one could name any war crime which the Iraqi invading forces have not committed against the people of our occupied cities. The severity of these crimes... have been to such an extent that in comparison, they make the events in Sabra and Shatila colourless."

Velayati said Iran was still unaware of the fate of "tens of thousands" of civilians who were attacked by the Iraqi regime in the early stages of the war. From the total of 424 war prisoners

who have been returned to Iran, 235 of them have been civilians and of them 171 were above the age of 50, he added.

The use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime against Iranian combatants also showed "the kind of animals the Islamic Republic has faced in the past four years." He said the Iraqi aggressions had now spread to other countries in the region with its attacks on commercial shipping in the Persian Gulf.

Velayati said some countries which had been "immune from Iraqi aggressions at the cost of our (Iranian) children's blood" were not "expressing appreciation" but instead pumping billions of dollars of the Muslims wealth to keep the Iraqi regime afloat. "Has not the time come for these regimes to come to their senses and instead of helping a decaying (Iraqi)...regime to give a positive response to the Islamic Republic of Iran..., that is now holding the flag of Islam's revival, for the establishment of good-neighborly relations (between them and Iran)?"

Velayati's speech began with this verse from the Koran: "Ye who believe, if ye obey the unbelievers, they will drive you back on your heels, and ye will turn back (from faith) to your own loss, nay, God is your protector, and he is the best of helpers."

On the growing threat of Zionism, he said "Zionism is continuing its growth... and more than ever it is turning into a serious threat not only against Muslims in the region but farther beyond, against the dignity of the Islamic world." He added: "The Middle East situation is a cause for concern and warning more than ever before...

"Today, the return of Egypt to the ICO, the resumption of diplomatic ties between Egypt and Jordan, the resumption of diplomatic ties between Iraq and America and a series of side efforts such as the holding of conference on Zionism in Morocco, are all within the framework of a gradual policy being carried out to wash away anti-Zionist sensitivities among Muslims. "All these subjects will end up in (direct) negotiations with Israel. America will use all it can to pull the Arab (rulers) to the negotiating table with Israel."

"It is obvious that America should be happy about this great reality. What could be more important than for Muslim countries to sit behind the negotiating table and issue a birth certificate for an illegimate child called 'Israel'...

"Today the current of compromise (with Zionism) has accelerated so much that it has even pulled the superpower of the East to itself....Of course, the East has other reasons to enter the Middle East issue as well. For it, any political game which could free the Muslims' mind from the occupation of Afghanistan, is a necessity....For five years, the blood of the children of Afghanistan has been colouring the land of this Islamic country. This is the price for discord, which has stopped the Islamic ummah from mobilising its great forces against world arrogance."

Said Velayati: "If we look at the present conditions of the superpowers, we will reach this conclusion very easily that in fact the period of 'cold war' between the East and West blocs...has ended and has given way to a period of understanding among the superpowers with the aim of plundering the great wealth and weakening the rich culture of the Islamic communities."

The Iranian foreign minister said: "The world of Islam has become the ravaging ground of kuffar (infidels) and mulhedin (atheists)... The hostile enemies of Islam do not hide their enmity towards the interests of Islam and Muslims. An evident example is the treatment of America towards the director general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Without the slightest doubt, the true motive behind America's (opposition) to the management of Mr M'bow stems from the fact that he is a Muslim, an African, and he thinks independently...

"How can it be justified that the ICO has remained silent to a group known as the Human Rights Commission, which has severely attacked some Muslim countries on 'charges' of implementing Islamic laws? Don't the Islamic ummah expect us not only to defend Islamic values in international forums but also to persuade the latter to recognise them?"

In conclusion, he gave strong notice that the ICO could not continue on its present course without "wasting the time and finances of its members. In order to change its course, first of all, it requires the political will of the member countries. Secondly, this (change of course) will depend on a competent organisation and an independent-minded administration."

Tehran Reports Velayati's Speech

GF201030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Mr 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of our country, who is now in the YAR to participate in the 15th conference of Islamic foreign ministers, yesterday afternoon in a detailed speech outlined the stance of the Islamic Republic on various problems confronting the world of Islam.

In his speech, he attributed differences among Muslims in the present day world to a failure to act in accordance with the verses of the holy Koran, adding: The governments of the Islamic countries, by not holding the rope of God, do not think enough about facing the factors which create differences in Islamic unity. However, the unity and shedding of differences by the world heretics is a real front and manifests its presence in the Muslim nations in a most hateful way.

Mr Velayati continued: Aggression against Lebanon is a big lesson which shows that full obedience to the decrees of Islam based on the necessity for determined confrontation with the aggressive enemy until the complete eradication of its mischief can enable a small but determined group to face a big satanic invasion and emerge victorious.

The foreign minister of our country in another part of his speech said: We believe that methods of dealing with the Zionist regime, and taking a serious and effective decision in this respect, are one of the most important duties of this conference. Thus, we formally propose that a committee of interested and volunteer countries should be set up and given two basic tasks:

1. To study and deeply analyze all the political movements of the Zionist regime in bilateral relations and among the international community;

2. To study, analyze, and submit practical ways to oppose the Zionist regime's attempt to come out of political and international isolation.

Referring to the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, Mr Velayati said: One superpower with all its military power and sophisticated arms has occupied the territory of a country for 5 years. However, in face of the resistance of a small group of Muslims with faith and trust who are deprived of even the most elementary weapons, it has been unsuccessful. The Islamic countries' dealing with the Afghanistan problem is no less sorrowful than their stand against the Palestine problem. It is quite naive of us to believe that by giving concessions to the enemy in one matter, we will prevent attacks in other matters. Therefore, it is no exaggeration to say that had there been no Camp David, there would have been no occupation of Afghanistan.

As regards the imposed war on Iran, Mr Velayati said: Our resistance against the Iraqi aggression stems from our observance of a divine principal which calls on us to resist until the conspiracy is totally eliminated and the roots of aggression are cut. There is no denying the fact that if the Islamic Republic had not carried out this duty and agreed to sit at the negotiating table with an attitude like those who compromise with the Zionist regime from a position of weakness, and had allowed the Iraqi regime to carry out the lessons in our territory which it learned from Israel, then at the very least aggression would have enveloped the neighboring countries and dragged them into bloodshed.

Al-Turayki Addresses Conference

LD201653 Tripoli JANA in English 1429 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Rabi Awal 28, December 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau, has emphasised that the jihad (holy war) is the right way to liberate Jerusalem and restore Palestine to its people.

In his speech before the ICO's foreign ministers conference held here, Dr al-Turayki also stressed the need for serious work to confront Zionist occupation, explaining that the enemy is entrenching its occupation of Islamic shrines at a time when surrender by some Islamic regimes to this enemy increases.

He then pointed out: Despite our adopting dozens and hundreds of resolutions, we still remain weak and are following the path of appeals instead of the jihad which is dictated by Islam, questioning the reasons which prevent us from confronting the enemy and those who support it, in the light of the call for the sacred jihad in Islam.

Dr al-Turayki also praised the struggle of the Lebanese people who destroyed the May 17th agreement of treason. He said: We must follow the example of this small nation which defied Zionism and America, stressing that the defeat of the enemy was possible, through the rifle, however, not through surrender, and explaining that Jamahiriyah values the role played by the great people of Egypt. "We will be happier once Egypt and its great people are with us and shall be more miserable if Egypt is with others and is the ally of our enemy which imposed on us capitulationist plans, in difficult circumstances. Today, we witness attempts at making the Palestinians follow the policy of surrender. They and the Arabs are required to make more concessions, after a show of weakness among them and in the absence of unity, thus forcing them to kneel before and surrender to the enemy, for the sake of a colonialism which fully backs the Zionist entity. The enemy's aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor reaffirms the threat of this entity, not only Palestine and nearby Arab countries, but us all. The enemy wants to prevent us from gaining scientific and technological progress. It wants to keep the state of backwardness and divisions in which the Arab and Islamic nations are living, in order to destroy us through the unlimited backing it receives from American imperialism."

Dr al-Turayki then informed the ministerial council of the ICO that "the aggressive acts carried by the U.S. against Jamahiriyah, the Islamic country hoisting the banner of Islam, will not frighten us and we shall continue to confront the enemies of Islam, to stand against surrender and treason and consider the jihad for the sake of Allah to be the victory of Muslims worldwide and to be a sacred duty."

He concluded by stressing the need for a new international economic system, away from exploitation and providing opportunities to all, to realize joint benefit and realize objectives based on equality, not on exploitation and the looting of the wealth of smaller and weaker nations.

Turkey's Halefoglu Address

TA201730 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu called on ICO members to adopt a decisive stand in the struggle against international terrorism. Halefoglu made this statement at the ICO Foreign Ministers meeting being held in Sanaa, the capital of the Yemen Arab Republic. He added that Turkey attached great importance to the activities of the conference. He said that the participation of President Kenan Evren at the Islamic conference summit meeting in Casablanca last January was indicative of this stand.

During his address, Halefoglu explained Turkey's views on various international issues. On Cyprus, he said that Turkey was grateful to the Islamic countries for their understanding and support for the Turkish Cypriot cause. He stressed that henceforth progress on the Cyprus issue depended on the goodwill and loyalty of the Greek Cypriot side to agreements.

Meanwhile, Halefoglu called on Yemen President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. International issues as well as bilateral relations were discussed during the talks. Halefoglu is also holding bilateral contacts with foreign ministers participating in the meeting.

PLO's Qaddumi Address

GF201950 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The 15th Islamic conference resumed its meetings today at 1600 [1300 GMT]. Brother Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department and head of the Palestinian delegation to the conference, delivered a speech. He conveyed the greetings of the strugglers of the Palestinian revolution to the YAR president, government and people. He expressed appreciation for the support and the backing demonstrated toward this holy issue. He referred to the efforts that were exerted with regard to preparations to hold the conference as this reflects the nobility of descent of these people and their well-known generosity.

He said that in light of the complicated international atmosphere, the Palestinian issue is facing threats and continuous efforts designed to ensure hegemony in the region and to control its peoples. He said that the Arab territories in Palestine, in the Golan and in southern Lebanon are still under Zionist occupation. He added: It is clear that the Palestinian issue, Jerusalem and the struggle of our people — in order to restore their constant national rights — has the full attention of your conference since the Palestinian issue is your central issue so long as it is subject to the ugliest plots and so long as the Palestinian people are subjected to continuous aggression designed to eradicate them in toto from their land and to make the Zionist entity's presence take root there.

He then reviewed the acts of Zionist aggression and the endeavors to liquidate the PLO through the Zionist incursion into Lebanon in 1982. He referred to the steadfastness and the sacrifices made by the Lebanese and the Palestinian peoples in confronting this aggression. He then talked about the convocation of the PNC in Amman where it demonstrated the ability of the Palestinian people to cement their national unity, their national keenness to the continuation of the armed struggle and their continuous support for the Palestinian national unity.

He said: Our people have supported all the constructive attempts and the plans that are designed to establish just and durable peace — a peace that ensures the recognition of the PLO and its participation in any international effort on equal footing with all sides in order to guarantee the attainment of legitimate Palestinian rights to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital under the PLO leadership. He added: The Palestinian people supported the Arab peace plan — which was enshrined by the Fes summit resolutions — and backed all other international initiatives such as the Geneva conference and the latest Soviet initiative of July 1984.

Brother Faruq Qaddumi demanded the conference undertake the positions and measures necessary to support the just struggle of the Arab Palestinian people in order to recoup their legitimate Palestinian rights, liberate Jerusalem — which prods the conscience of every Muslim to rise for its liberation — provide the utmost support and backing for fraternal Lebanon in its struggle to end the Zionist military occupation of its territories, back the Lebanese nationalist resistance, and to impose strong pressures on the international arena in order force the Zionist enemy and those who stand behind it to submit to the resolutions of the international community and thus to withdraw unconditionally from Lebanon.

Brother Faruq Qaddumi urged the brothers in Iraq and Iran to end the war currently taking place between them and adhere to the calls of the Islamic world — this world that is shaken by the wasted power of the two countries and of the two fraternal peoples. He called for reinforcing the efforts exerted within the ICO in order to end this war. He lauded the positions of the African countries that are designed to support the Palestinian issue.

Concluding his speech, he expressed the PLO's support for the struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa with the aim of ending racial discrimination and of acquiring freedom and independence.

Syria: Egyptian Presence Illegal

JN201544 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Sanaa — The Syrian delegation attending the 15th Islamic foreign ministers conference in Sanaa has succeeded in adding a clause to the conference agenda reaffirming the illegality of the presence of the Egyptian regime's representative at the conference. The Syrian Arab delegation, led by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib, has also addressed the need for the Egyptian regime to abide by Islamic summit resolutions that oppose the Camp David accords.

On the other hand, Al-Na'ib met with Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister. He also met with the Algerian, Beninese, and Zambian delegation heads. During these meetings, a review of Middle East issues and the most important political issues in the region was held.

Egypt To Reveal Iran-Israel Ties

LD201811 Kuwait KUNA in English 1500 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa Dec 20 (KUNA) — Foreign ministers from Muslim states Thursday continued their five-day conference listening to addresses by a number of delegation leaders. Qatari Minister for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf al Thani was among the delegates to deliver his speech.

Reports leaking from the closed-door session indicated that much coordination is taking place among Egyptian, Iraqi and Jordanian delegations. Informed sources said the Egyptian delegation threatened at the end of last night's session to reveal all secrets on Iranian-Israeli cooperation as well as Iran's relations with other sides opposed to Islam and Muslims. He also asked the chairman of the conference to allow him take the stand to offer official documents in this respect.

Meanwhile, the conference's four main sub-committees continued work after electing chairman for each committee.

Representatives of Pakistan, Palestine and Senegal were elected deputy chairmen of the Political and Information Committees while a representative of Bangladesh was chosen as rapporteur. 28 items were referred to the committees for recommendation.

Saudi Arabia and Malaysia's representatives were elected deputy chairmen of the Economic and Social Committees while the Pakistani representative was elected as rapporteur at the recommendation of the Kuwaiti delegation. The committees were assigned to discuss 31 agenda items.

Representatives of Saudi Arabia and Malaysia were elected deputy chairmen of the islamic and cultural sub-committees for which a rapporteur from Mali was elected. Total items referred to them reached 38.

Representatives of Syria and Guinea were further elected deputy chairmen of the Administrative and Financial Committees with a rapporteur from Bangladesh. They were assigned to discuss a total of 13 related items.

Chairman of the Political Committee Mohsen al Iyani said the most important issues referred to his committee include the Palestine cause, the Middle East crisis, Iraqi-Iranian war, situation in the African Horn and hot issues of the Islamic world.

Chatti Holds Press Conference

GF210820 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Brother Habib Chatti, ICO secretary general, held a press conference yesterday in which he said that the Islamic conference meetings are proceeding well. The conference has begun the general discussion of the agenda which was prepared by senior officials. He pointed out that the Palestinian issue was on the top of the list of the proposed political issues which have been discussed.

Chatti said that the conference has based its discussions on previous resolutions on this issue, which in turn are based on the principle that the Palestinian issue is the heart of the Middle East conflict. Peace must be comprehensive and just, based on a total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and the securing of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. He said that these are the principles on which the ICO's efforts are based to find a just solution to the Middle East question.

Brother Habib Chatti reviewed the ICO's efforts in presenting Arab and Palestinian rights on the international level and the efforts the ICO is making on the European and international level and its demand for an international conference in which the PLO will participate as an equal.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Brother Habib Chatti reviewed the efforts of the ICO Good Offices Committee. He said that views are unanimous, not merely among Islamic countries but in the entire world, for the need to end this war. He pointed out that the 15th ICO foreign ministers conference will drive forward and encourage further steps by this committee to find an end to this war as hoped for by Muslims.

In his press conference, Chatti spoke on a number of issues of interest to the Islamic world, foremost of which is the issue of bilateral cooperation, particularly economic cooperation and the ICO's position on the drought from which a number of African Islamic countries suffer.

Sudan's 'Uthman Meets Envoys

JN201121 Khartoam SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, 20 Dec (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman met here yesterday with the Algerian foreign minister. They discussed bilateral relations, ways to strengthen them, and the opening the Sudanese Embassy in Algiers. They also discussed coordinating stands in the ICO foreign ministers' meeting, drought, and desertification, as well as urging other countries to help suffering nations.

Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman also met with the Mauritanian foreign minister. They discussed bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them. The Mauritanian minister confirmed the state of stability in his country.

'Uthman also held talks with the Moroccan foreign minister on subjects of common interest.

Iraq's 'Aziz Meets Counterparts

JN201132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0708 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, 20 Dec (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has held a series of side meetings in Sanaa, where he is attending the ICO meetings, with Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak and discussed with him the latest developments of the war being launched by the Iranian regime against Iraq and the necessary steps that should be taken in light of the ICO meetings.

'Aziz also met with the foreign ministers of Morocco, Niger, Mali, and Senegal and discussed the agenda of the Islamic Solidarity Committee on the drought-stricken African states, which evolved from the Al-Ta'if conference in 1981 and which will meet today under Iraqi chairmanship. 'Aziz also met with Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and discussed the conference's agenda.

President Receives Libya's Al-Turayki

LD201155 Tripoli JANA in English 1424 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Rabi Awal 27, Dec. 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — President of the YAR, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, yesterday afternoon received here the secretary of the People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau, Dr al-Turayki, currently taking part in the meetings of the 15th session of the ICO foreign ministers.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations and means to back and promote cooperation between the two countries. They also reviewed the latest developments in the Arab situation and the conspiracies being hatched against the Arab nation's security and stability as well as Islamic and international issues of joint interest.

Colonel Salih then expressed his personal and the Yemeni people's esteem for the efforts exerted by the Libyan Arab people and the leader of their revolution to unite the Arab nation in the confrontation of its enemies.

Al-Turayki Meets ICO's Chatti, Others

LD201147 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Rabi Awal 27, Dec 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau met here yesterday with the ICO's secretary general, Habib Chatti to discuss issues relating to the activities of the organization and its institutions. Habib Chatti expressed the organization's gratitude for Jamahiriyah's effective backing which enabled it to undertake serious work in the service of Islam and Muslims world wide. He added: We highly value Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's efforts to back Islam and Muslims as well as his permanent concern with promoting Islam's prestige and confronting its enemies.

On another level, Dr al-Turayki met with the foreign ministers of Morocco, Senegal, Burkina Faso, and Iran, as well as with Mauritania's deputy foreign minister, all taking part in the ICO's 15th session.

Further Al-Turayki Meetings

LD201758 Tripoli JANA in English 1450 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa, Rabi Awal 28, December 20, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau met this morning with Rashid 'Abdallah, al-Nu'aymi UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, Vahit Halefoglu, foreign minister of Turkey, and Ahmed el-Hag Fahmy, acting industry and foreign minister of Djibouti. The meetings discussed suitable means of developing existing cooperation relations between the Jamahiryah and these countries and issues of interest to Islam and the Muslims.

Prime Minister Meets Al-Turayki

LD201858 Tripoli JANA in English 1452 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Sanaa Rabi Awal 28, December 20, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister of the YAR received this morning Dr 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau who is attending the meetings of foreign ministers of countries of ICO. The meeting was attended by the secretary of Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Sanaa and discussed bilateral relations, confirming the importance of supporting and developing cooperation relations between the two sisterly countries and several other issues of common interest.

President Salih Receives Ministers

GF210700 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in succession yesterday Abdelouahed Belkeziz, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs; Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of foreign affairs; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi minister of foreign affairs; Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of foreign affairs; (Boualem Bessaih), Algerian minister of posts and telecommunications; Mohamed Abdelkader Ould Dia, Mauritanian deputy foreign minister; Husayn [name indistinct], chairman of the [word indistinct] and adviser to the president of Bangladesh; Hashim 'Uthman, Sudanese minister of foreign affairs; Tahir al-Masri, Jordanian minister of foreign affairs; Basile Guissou, minister of foreign affairs in the Republic of Burkina Faso, Mohamed (Dotsa), in charge of foreign relations and Islamic affairs in the Gabon; and Idi Oumarou, Niger minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who are leading their countries' delegations to the 15th ICO foreign ministers conference in Sanaa, who conveyed to the brother president during the meetings the greetings of the heads of their countries and their wishes for our people's progress and prosperity. They praised the YAR's preparations for the conference.

The brother president leader asked them to convey his greetings to his brothers the heads of their countries and his wishes and those of the YAR people for their peoples' further progress and prosperity.

Brother President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih also received Brother 'Ali Mahtar M'bow, UNESCO director general. He discussed with him cooperation between the YAR and UNESCO and expressed the appreciation of the leadership, government, and people of the YAR for UNESCO's role in the fields of education, culture, and science, and its role within the framework of the international campaign which it sponsors to preserve the city of ancient Sanaa as a historical, Islamic city and as an Islamic cultural symbol.

Brother 'Ali Mahtar M'bow expressed his appreciation for the YAR's efforts to preserve and maintain its historical, Islamic, and cultural heritage. He praised the YAR's development in various fields.

Mubarak Congratulates Ziaul Haq on Reelection

NC211115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Dec (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has sent a congratulatory cable to Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on his reelection as president. The cable reads:

I am greatly pleased to send Your Excellency the most sincere and heartfelt congratulations on the dear trust the Pakistani people have vested in you by reelecting you president of the Republic so that they may continue with you and under you the march toward progress and prosperity.

While commending the relations of fraternity and cooperation between our two countries in all fields, I wish you good health, happiness, and success, and for the Pakistani people progress and prosperity under your wise leadership.

Please accept my highest esteem and regard.

Al-Sharif Meets Visiting Yugoslav Counterpart

NC211120 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Cairo, 21 Dec (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif met with Mitko Calovsky, Yugoslav federal secretary of information, who is presently visiting Cairo, and discussed with him bilateral relations in the field of information.

The two sides expressed their mutual desire to strengthen these relations in line with the agreement on information cooperation signed by both countries. A specific plan for implementing this agreement regarding radio, television, and the public information authority will be drawn up.

The two sides also discussed the feasibility of exchanging visits by information delegations to study the information activities in both countries. They also discussed ways of bolstering cooperation between MENA and TANJUG. Joint production of information material will also be studies by the two countries.

The talks also touched on the Nonaligned Movement and the role of information in bolstering this movement through the News Agency Association and the Permanent Governmental Council. Egypt and Yugoslavia, both founding members of the Nonaligned Movement, will be coordinating during the nonaligned conferences that will be held in 1985.

During his visit, the Yugoslav guest will be meeting Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

AL-AHRAM on Syria's Stand at Sanaa Conference

NC210750 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 21 Dec 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "What Do the Crisis Makers Want?" *AL-AHRAM* says: The Muslims and Arabs have lost a great deal of their prestige on the international level because of the differences and imaginary battles which some are good at fabricating every now and then. Syria's and Libya's behavior at the Islamic conference in Sanaa, and their attempt to involve the conference in a fabricated crisis over Egypt's reassumption of its role at the conference, is proof that the same quarters which have drowned joint Arab action in a sea of recrimination and acrimony, are trying to repeat the same role to obstruct joint Islamic action.

AL-AHRAM adds: Syria and Libya should have concentrated their efforts on promoting serious dialogue within the conference to discuss the best methods of confronting the huge mass of issues and problems facing the Islamic world. It continues: Don't the Syrian and Libyan representatives know that Egypt returned to the ICO through an historic decision of the highest level?

Concluding, *AL-AHRAM* affirms that Egypt derives its strength, pride, and dignity from its affiliation with the Arab and Islamic nations. Egypt fully realizes that its presence at the conference is a matter of pride for the Arabs and a victory for the Muslims. It will continue to play its role on the Arab and Islamic levels, paying no attention to such trifles.

Ramadan Interviewed on War, Economy, POW's

PM201601 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 15-21 Dec 84 pp 20-23

[Interview with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan by Nura Fakhuri in Baghdad — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: [Iranian Majlis Speaker] Hashemi Rafsanjani has threatened to extend the war to the other Gulf states. In particular he mentioned Kuwait, where the recent GCC conference was held. Over the past 4 years various conferences have been held to try to end the war. Since last February there has been a state of military relaxation accompanied by some kind of attrition at the front. In your view, what would settle the issue: a military decision or a political decision? In whose interest is this continuous bloodshed?

Answer, after a pause of disapproval: What attrition? There is no attrition at the front.

Question: No decisive battles are taking place.

Answer: Iran's decision is clear. It does not want to stop the fighting. This is not a new situation. It is perhaps being conveyed as a new situation. The Iranian official statements are quite clear. They are saying that they want to invade Iraq, but they have so far been unable to do so, and so the war goes on. World public opinion and international organizations have played an influential role in trying to stop the war, but the decisive factor is the attitude of the two warring parties. Iraq wants peace, but Iran does not want peace. The war will therefore continue, unless there is some political, military, and economic development on the Iranian side.

Question: The Iraqi military machine was and is now stronger than the Iranian military machine. Why does Iraq not settle the military situation by force and impose negotiations and peace on Iran?

Answer: As you can see, the attitude in the Arab world varies. There are those who are silent spectators, those who generally support us, and those who have taken a treacherous stand in full support of the Iranian side. The international attitude is governed by self-interest. Even the positive aspect of the international attitude is only moral. So, these being the circumstances, is Iraq supposed to enter into combat with Iran once more? That is not feasible. Iraq is now defending its territory and borders with all available means. By that we do not mean complacent, permanent defense, but we have no intention of seizing Iranian territory.

Question: What is the total number of troops in the People's Army, and what is the maximum number attainable in the event of a general mobilization?

Answer: At present the number of those trained, armed, and registered as fighters in the army is close to 600,000, but the number of those who periodically take part in activities at the front or discharge internal duties is about 140,000. There is no maximum number as far as the size of the People's Army is concerned, because training is a continuous process and has nothing to do with the war. The purpose of the People's Army is to provide training and armament requirements so that every citizen is able to carry arms.

Question: When do members of the People's Army participate in front-line fighting, and does that army have any power in making military decisions?

Answer: The People's Army is a reserve army. Its training is different from the regular Army training. The main purpose of any people's army in the world is to act as a militia to protect the domestic front, but the Iraqi People's Army's training is such that it is better than all other militia. We prepared it that way. It supports the regular Army. The Army division, or rather the commander of the Army corps, is the one who decides what position the People's Army units should take and what duties they should perform on the front lines. The military commander of every sector of the front is responsible for the People's Army units under his command. We have only one command. There is no joint command.

Question: Iran spelled out its conditions for ending the war. These conditions are well known. Has there been a change in the Iraqi position and, apart from its interest in peace, does Iraq have any terms?

Answer: First of all, we do not listen to or discuss the Iranian conditions. No war can be ended with conditions. Wars are ended through the confirmation of rights. We believe that negotiations, a cease fire, confirmation of borders in accordance with the international laws and practices which historically governed our relations, and noninterference in domestic affairs are the basis on which we could bring the Iraq-Iran conflict to an end. Conditions, any conditions, imply violation and lack of goodwill when it comes to peaceful intentions. If there had been such conditions before the war, they would in fact have caused a war, so how can they be a basis for the peaceful settlement of the current war?

Question: In your view, is peace possible under the present Iranian regime?

Answer: Everything is possible. If that regime sees that the continuation of the war could threaten the men in power, then it will end the war, but if the war helps them stay in power longer, they will keep it going.

Question: For a long time you were in charge of a vast economic sector. Ever since I arrived in Iraq, everybody has been talking about the good economic situation. According to some reports, however, the Iraqi economy is in bad shape and the currency reserves have dropped to a low level as a result of military purchases. Iraq is said to be seeking loans. Its latest bid was for a loan from Britain for $550 million. It has also been claimed that because of the deteriorating situation, Iraq has sought loans from other foreign and Arab states. How true are these reports?

Answer: What is being reported in the press and elsewhere about the Iraqi economy now, in 1984, is all positive. This does not mean that the sources who say this are pro-Iraq, because the very same sources said some serious and exaggerated things in 1982 and 1983 about Iraq and its economic difficulties at the time. Iraq never denied these difficulties, because they were nothing to be ashamed of and they did not constitute a flaw in its economic infrastructure. Iraq was at war, and a brother disrupted one of Iraq's main sources of income. So the economic situation naturally deteriorated in 1982, and that is why we said at the time that the Iraqi economic situation was critical. When I talk about the Iraqi economy, I do not mean the general infrastructure, because that is strong. I am talking about the financial difficulty and economic weakness. In 1983 we took internal and external steps to remedy the situation. In 1984 we can say very seriously that not only has the economy been strengthened but that we are through the bottleneck, and our vision of the next phase is therefore very clear. We borrow from many states, but that does not mean that there is something wrong with our economy. I ask: How come these states are willing to give loans to Iraq, which is a country at war, while other states living in peace are unable to obtain loans? I say that the Iraqi economy is strong and its future is clear. That is why investors and states which extend loans to Iraq are not worried.

Question: Some time ago the *ECONOMIST*, in a lengthy article on the POW question, said that there were 14,000 Iranian military POW's and 20,000 civilian POW's in Iraqi hands. What is your comment?

Answer: I have no statistics.

Question: But are there civilian POW's?

Answer: I have no answer. Ask the *ECONOMIST*.

Aircraft Hit 2 Maritime Targets 21 Dec

JN211228 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] At 1230 today [0930 GMT], Iraqi aircraft carried out destructive blows against two large maritime targets south of Khark Island, scoring accurate and direct hits.

In a statement to INA today, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the Iraqi forces will destroy any maritime target which approaches the exclusion zone that was defined in previous communiques.

The spokesman added that these blows are dealt to tighten the siege on Khark Island and other Iranian ports. The spokesman said that Iraqi men are daily reaffirming that they are the stronger and the more determined, and that the symbols of ignorance, backwardness, and aggression will be toppled as a result of their destructive blows. He stressed that the hawks of the air and the staunch men of the ground and naval forces will continue to be victorious.

Communique No. 1,686 on War Activities

JN201804 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Communique No. 1,686 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 20 December 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Whenever those ruling in Iran act in a rash and barbaric manner, and continue to harm and commit aggression against great, lofty, and proud Iraq, they will find a steadfast Army and a courageous people who will confront their frustrated attempts and make them taste the bitterness of defeat, destruction, and humiliation. This will prove to the enemy that as a result of wise planning, undaunted determination, and courageous actions, the reign of victory will remain in Iraqi hands and that the ignorant and oppressive clique in Iran has no other choice but to bow their heads to right and to those who defend it, and to peace and its advocates. The results of the activities for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. The aircraft of our Air Force continue their famous feats over the battlefield, reaping the corrupt heads of the remnants of the Khomeyniite regime, which thought it was strong and which miscalculated the gigantic strength Iraq possesses. The missiles of our Air Force pounded enemy troop concentrations and military hardware in the Maysan sector. With joy in their hearts, our forward units saw flames and heard explosions from the positions of those who had insisted on being greedy and sinful, believing they could soil Iraqi territory. Our Air Force carried out 63 combat missions today and all our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. One of our daring helicopter gunship formations carried out daring and successful raids against enemy troop concentrations and equipment in the Maysan sector today. One medium-caliber machine gun and two boats were destroyed. The occupants of the boats were also killed. All our helicopter gunships returned safely and triumphantly.

3. The valiant artillerymen dealt fierce and intensive artillery blows to selected enemy positions and other fortified [mustamkana] targets and engineering equipment in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in life and equipment. One medium-caliber machine gun was also destroyed, one enemy soldier was killed, and one enemy vehicle was hit. Flames were seen rising from enemy positions. In another area of the same sector, an artillery blow was dealt to the area where the enemy stockpiles its ammunition, scoring effective hits and destroying one enemy infantry position.

4. Our forward units dealt an artillery blow to enemy positions, troop concentrations, and military hardware in the central sector of the battlefield, scoring effective and accurate hits, and destroying one enemy machine gun position and setting one hardware stockpile on fire.

5. Escaping the tyranny and oppression of the criminals who are ruling in Qom and Tehran, new groups of civilians sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield and were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. The evil criminals shelled several areas in Basra suburbs today.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 December 1984

Ramadan Receives Message From ROK President
JN201418 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Dec (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received ROK Assistant Foreign Minister Han U-sok this morning. The ROK minister delivered a message to Taha Yasin Ramadan from the ROK prime minister on ways to promote bilateral relations.

Briefs

Development Bank Hospitals Loan — Jeddah, 18 Dec (QNA) — Iraq and the Islamic Development Bank today signed a loan agreement for $10 million to be used by Iraq in furnishing and equipping eight hospitals in Iraq. [Summary] [*Doha QNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 18 Dec 84 GF*]

Coverage of 11th Round of Al-Naqurah Talks

Israel Issues Ultimatum

NC201251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Dispatch from Al-Naqurah by NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent Antoine 'Awn on 20 December — recorded]

[Text] During the lunch recess, each negotiating delegation briefed reporters. While Lebanon has stuck to its position concerning the UN resolutions on the UN emergency forces, particularly Resolution 425, Israel gave Lebanon until 7 January to accept its views regarding the deployment of the UN emergency forces north of the Al-Litani line or else it will suspend the talks. The Lebanese liaison officer told reporters that Lebanon's views on the deployment of the UN emergency forces in the south are based on Resolution 425. He pointed out that the least that one can ask is for the legitimate Lebanese Army to assume a major role. He revealed that Israel is still insisting on allocating a role to the forces of Major General Lahd, which Lebanon rejects. He expressed surprise over the impossible Israeli conditions, particularly since the other side has not responded clearly to the Lebanese ideas.

Israeli military spokesman Yona Gazit stated that Israeli delegation head 'Amos Gilbo'a has reiterated that the deployment of the UN emergency forces between Al-Awwali and Al-Zahrani and as far as the Syrian lines is one of the most important characteristics of the security arrangements which Israel is demanding, to prevent the infiltration of hostile elements to Israel through this area. Gilbo'a accused the Lebanese side of not responding to this demand, despite the various proposals made in this regard. Gilbo'a addressed what amounts to an ultimatum to the Lebanese side that for Israel to withdraw, the vital demand for the deployment of UNIFIL between Al-Zahrani and Al-Awwali and as far as the Syrian lines, which Lebanon still rejects, must be met. If his country does not receive a positive reply before 7 January — that is, during the Christmas holiday — Israel will consider whether or not to continue the talks in Al-Naqurah.

The delegations are expected to resume their talks within 15 minutes.

Round of Talks Ends

NC201422 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The second session of the Lebanese-Israeli military talks in Al-Naqurah ended at 1445 today, thus concluding the 11th round of talks held this year. The 12th round of talks will be held on 7 January 1985.

Timor Goksel, UNIFIL spokesman in the south, issued an official statement declaring the conclusion of today's talks. The final statement included a proposal by both the Lebanese and Israeli delegations that the talks be suspended during the holiday period. The two delegations also addressed greetings to the UNIFIL general counselor, who was recently transferred to New York.

Statement Issued on Talks

NC201649 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Correspondent's dispatch from Al-Naqurah on 20 December — recorded]

[Excerpts] The 11th round of the Lebanese-Israeli military negotiations in Al-Naqurah ended at 1500 today. At about 1450, a Lebanese military official distributed the following statement to journalists:

Having been invited by the UN secretary general to hold talks with Israel under UN auspices, Lebanon agreed to such talks, to arrange a complete Israeli withdrawal and to work out security arrangements in this context. The Lebanese military delegation attended the talks with a very positive spirit, and from the first session has taken the following positive steps:

1. It presented a security plan that covers the entire southern area, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, whereby the Lebanese Army, the Internal Security Forces, and other legitimate forces would assume responsibility for maintaining security.

2. It expressed its readiness to render that area an oasis of security and peace by implementing security measures and resuming developmental and economic projects in the area.

3. It expressed its readiness to prevent hostile actions from originating in that or any other area.

4. At the request of the Israeli delegation, the Lebanese delegation presented a detailed military plan for the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the areas of Jazzin, Sidon, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. This plan did not meet with approval.

5. The Lebanese delegation also presented a detailed plan for the deployment of the Lebanese Army, supported by the emergency forces [UNIFIL], south of the Al-Litani up to the internationally recognized borders. No positive response to this plan was forthcoming, either.

While regretting the lack of any response, the Lebanese delegation must also express its disappointment at the stands taken by the Israeli delegation:

1. By refusing to permit the deployment of the Lebanese Army on its own territory and among its kinfolk, especially in the southern area from Al-Zahrani to the internationally recognized border; instead, the Israeli delegation demonstrated its loyalty to illegal armed organizations, which take orders from the Israeli Army;

2. By disapproving of the deployment of the emergency forces in support for the Lebanese Army on the internationally recognized borders, in accordance with UN Security Council

resolutions in this respect; the Israeli delegation requested that these forces be deployed intensively outside this area; and

3. By disrespecting the will of the Lebanese people, who are calling for an Israeli withdrawal.

4. The Lebanese delegation hopes that the holiday period will be one of contemplation and reconsideration, permitting progress in the negotiations process.

It has been mentioned that the Lebanese and Israeli delegations and the UN delegation exchanged good wishes on the occasion of the holidays. It only remains for us to note that the next session has been scheduled for 7 January 1985.

Birri on Murphy Visit, Al-Naqurah Talks

GF210420 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 20 Dec 84 p 18

[Interview with Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction, by Husayn Himyah — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Himyah: We know Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. state secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, is currently in the Middle East. Doubtless, his discussions will include the Al-Naqurah negotiations. How do you view these negotiations? Does the United States support the Lebanese view and rights or the Israeli conditions?

Birri: "Negotiations" is too big a word to be used for the talks in Al-Naqurah. Wrong words are being used here. The talks in Al-Naqurah will not produce any results. They are futile talks. These talks have begun to reach a deadlock and will end by stressing their uselessness. That is all there is to it. We went to these talks banking on the cease-fire agreement and UN resolutions on Lebanon, especially Resolution 425. However, the Israelis are aiming to obtain an agreement similar to the 17 May agreement, which is not acceptable to us. We are prepared to talk on the bases of the cease-fire agreement and Resolution 425.

Himyah: What has Richard Murphy got to offer?

Birri: I have not met with Murphy in his satellite visits. Murphy is currently endeavoring to save Israel from its predicament by making moves behind the scenes. The Israelis have met a stumbling block at the Al-Naqurah talks in that our delegation has insisted on the cease-fire agreement. Israel does not wish to accept this condition. Nor does Israel accept Resolution 425. Murphy's satellite trips are attempts aimed at obtaining an agreement beyond the cease-fire agreement so that international emergency forces may be deployed north of the Al-Litani River. We must warn against this condition, because it is very serious. We cannot possibly accept it because it would mean turning Lebanon into another Cyprus.

I have said it before and Raymond Iddi has also reiterated that the only bases suitable for the Al-Naqurah talks are the cease-fire agreement and Resolution 425.

Car Bomb Explodes in Ra's al-Matn, Causing Fire

NC210826 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] A massive explosion took place in Ra's al-Matn at 0920 today. The explosion, resulting from a car bomb, set off a large fire in a circle more than 100 meters in diameter. The latest reports say that a green Mercedes exploded in front of the Ra's al-Matn school. At 0925, Junblatt's artillery fired two shells at Al-Ashrafiyah [in East Beirut]. Two people were slightly wounded as a result.

Five Killed in Blast

NC210944 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 0930 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Five people were killed and more than 20 wounded when a car bomb exploded at 0920 in the Syrian-controlled town of Ra's al-Matn. Preliminary reports say the explosives inside the olive-green Mercedes car have been estimated at 200 kg of TNT and casualties at 5 killed and 20 wounded.

Gunfire Reported at Arab University of Beirut

NC202031 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Following a regrettable incident that took place at noon today near the buildings of the Arab University of Beirut and that resulted in gunfire on the university campus, student representatives held a series of meetings with the university president, the university secretary general, a group of Army officers, and officials responsible for security in the area and at the university. It was agreed at the meetings that normal studies would be resumed at the university as of the morning of 22 December.

SANA Editor Comments Further on Baghdad Blast

JN201336 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Damascus — SANA's political editor has commented on the Iraqi regime's latest lie put out yesterday, which alleges that Syria is connected with the car explosion that occurred in Al-Sa'dun Street in downtown Baghdad, killing a number of the regime's guards. The editor pointed out that throughout the years of the unjust, mad war which Saddam is waging against the Islamic Republic of Iran, Saddam's regime has drowned our people in Iraq in a bloodbath, caused every house to wear garments of mourning, and destroyed that fraternal country's potentials. That regime has always fabricated various forms of accusations against Arab Syria as a cover and justification for its exacerbating internal crisis, represented by the popular rage and armed resistance in the civilian and military Iraqi arenas aimed at toppling that regime, ending the Iraqi people's sufferings, and stopping their continued bloodshed.

The SANA political editor added: The Saddam regime's false accusation, and the continued slander campaigns which Saddam launches against Arab Syria through his media, are desparate and unsuccessful attempts to absorb the people's violent indignation and draw the Iraqi masses' attention away from their daily bloody catastrophes which he had inflicted on them throughout the years of the destructive war.

The political editor asserted that Syria, which is preoccupied by the Arab nation's battle against imperialism and Zionism, and with exerting efforts to achieve a strategic balance to confront the enemies of the Arab nation, will not be distracted or harmed by the accusations of Saddam's regime. The Syrian and Arab citizens believe that slander campaigns launched by Saddam's regime against Syria are clear proof that the Iraqi regime has deviated from the nation's course and is collaborating with its enemies to fragment the Arab ranks and obstruct any pan-Arab unionist trend.

AL-HURRIYAH on Executions, Disputes in Iraq

JN201036 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad — In its next issue, the *AL-HURRIYAH* magazine will publish an important dispatch from Baghdad asserting that the Iraqi regime's president, Saddam Husayn, has carried out a new liquidation campaign within the ranks of the Iraqi Army.

News agencies, quoting the dispatch, say that reports from Iraq assert that Iraq's dictator has committed another massacre against a group of commanders and officers in the Iraqi Army. These commanders and officers were executed by firing squad in the field on 2 December on charges of neglecting to carry out military orders. More than 60 military personnel from various units and of various ranks were executed.

The dispatch asserted that disputes and doubts about the regime continue to prevail. Saddam Husayn ordered that Staff Major General Isma'il Nabih al-Na'imi, deputy chief of staff of the Iraqi Army, be placed under house arrest, and that Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Jassan, former Air Force commander, be dismissed.

Reports also say that Major General 'Abd al-Jawad (Ghannun), the regime's chief of staff, will be replaced soon, because of differences between Saddam Husayn and his staff regarding the unjust war which the fascist regime is waging against the Iranian revolution. The reports also say that Saddam has released Lieutenant General Sa'dun Niran, former communications minister, and told him to go and live in London because he was no longer welcome in Iraq.

Reports from Baghdad assert that Colonel Jasim al-Jabburi, assistant chief of Military Intelligence, together with 24 intelligence personnel, had been killed a few days ago when a mine went off under their motorcade.

Within the framework of consolidating his position in the intelligence organs, Saddam assigned his cousin, Fadil Salfiz al-Tikriti, as assistant to the chief of General Intelligence, Major General Fadil al-Barraz al-Tikriti, who is currently under suspicion due to his sympathies with the supporters of former President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr. Baghdad reports point out that these liquidations and disputes have aroused increasing resentment within the popular circles and even within the fascist regime itself, especially since they are accompanied by the policy of rapprochement with the Arab reactionary axes and with the U.S. plans in the region.

Press Views Murphy's Tour, Israeli Pullout

JN201114 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 20 Dec 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Withdrawal From Southern Lebanon or U.S. Settlement in the Region?" *AL-BA'TH*'s editorial says:

For months, U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy has been roaming the Middle East region within a mission said to aim at Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. After several months have elapsed, it seems that Murphy's actions in the Middle East are one thing, and the requirements of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon are quite another. In other words, Murphy may be carrying out more than one mission in the Middle East, but Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is, to say the least, not the most important of them. If we assume that Murphy is endeavoring to achieve Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, we may say that this does not require all of this going about in circles or investigations as a basis to carry out this task. A review of the UN resolutions in Lebanon shows that they constitute the basis for any solution to the situation that arose from Israeli occupation of the Lebanese territory. The first UN document, represented by UN Security Council Resolution 425 for the year 1978, demands respect for Lebanon's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and political independence within internationally recognized borders. It calls on Israel to stop its military actions against Lebanon's territorial integrity and to withdraw its forces from the Lebanese territory without delay. It also demands the establishment of a provisional international author-

ity in southern Lebanon for ensuring Israel's withdrawal, restoring peace and security, and helping the Lebanese Government guarantee its effective presence.

Resolution 509 for the year 1982 demands immediate, unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces to Lebanon's internationally recognized borders. It stresses the need for complete respect for Lebanon's sovereignty and political independence within its internationally recognized borders.

These two resolutions as well as the other resolutions approved in the UN Security Council and with overt U.S. support, are in harmony with international law, the UN Charter, and the undisputed peoples' rights. They are the correct means of tackling the crisis created by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

In conclusion, the paper says: In any case, the situation does not brook any doubts. Even if Murphy arrived in the region with ideas concerning Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, his mission is now reduced to the role of postman who carries Israel's stands that are broadcast over the radio and published in the press, leaving Washington without any practical role in terms of implementing UN resolutions on Lebanon.

Thus, we are not surprised if the U.S. talk about the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon becomes a mere slogan for the mission of Murphy and others, while the U.S. action takes a diametrically opposite direction that has nothing to do with this slogan. No matter how specious the U.S. claims may be, this does not dissociate the U.S. Administration from its special responsibility toward Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. This exposed move to reimpose hegemony, domination, and blackmail, will further weaken and dissipate the U.S. role and credibility in the region.

Under the headline "Syria Will Continue Its Support for Lebanon To Liberate Its Occupied Territory," *AL-THAWRAH* says: Recent Lebanese developments, led by the Lebanese Government's irrevocable rejection of Israel's maneuvers, and its demands for a role in deploying the international forces and for stationing these forces north of Al-Litani River, have confirmed that Lebanon cannot accept any Israeli condition that harms its sovereignty and freedom or impinges on its independence.

The statement by the UN official Jean-Claude Aime, who restricted the UN forces' deployment along the border areas in southern Lebanon, shut the door before the Israeli maneuvers and robbed Israel of this card. If Israel is under the illusion that escalating its aggressive provocations coupled with the missions of the U.S. envoys may constitute a pressure factor, it is grossly mistaken because Lebanon, which canceled the 17 May agreement and cast away its humiliating chains, cannot abandon its position and gains. The Lebanese national unity government has defined its position firmly and resolutely. It has called for unconditional Israeli withdrawal.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* says that Syria, which has always supported Lebanon, will continue its unlimited support for its endeavors to drive out the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory without delay or conditions, and with no Israeli political or military gains.

TISHRIN, AL-THAWRAH on Al-Naqurah Talks

TISHRIN Views Israeli Stand

JN210943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "Enemy Threats", *TISHRIN* says: Peres' threat to stop the negotiations and give the whole border strip to Lahd's gangs — that is, to Israel — will not weaken the Lebanese stand. The threat is a mere extortionist maneuver. Lebanon is not in a dilemma, as is the case with the invasion forces. The threat will only unify the Lebanese and escalate the national armed resistance operations, which have proven their effectiveness in the arena and have inflicted heavy losses on the invaders.

They have also led to rising calls in the Zionist community to withdraw without delay. In addition, the unity of the Lebanese and the bolstering of their support for the resistance men will escalate the armed struggle and consequently lead to further losses and unease in the enemy community. With Peres' threat, the importance of transcending the temporary differences among the national unity government's parties and implementing the coastal plan to rapidly deploy the legitimate Army in all regions, has become very clear.

Israel would not have delayed withdrawal had the Lebanese transcended all differences and established security and stability throughout Lebanon. Comprehensive internal peace is no longer a dream. It has become a reality. Consecrating this reality will undoubtedly hasten liberating the south and expelling the Israelis from it. Syria offers unlimited support, and places all of its abilities at Lebanon's disposal to help it overcome the ordeal and regain its health and sovereignty over its territory.

TISHRIN affirms that the Zionist extortionist stand should be confronted with a tough stand, not only in the negotiations, but also in achieving accord and overcoming all difficulties. The south is an important link in the chain of sovereignty, and Lebanese sovereignty cannot be complete without regaining the south; consolidating the Lebanese position will make the enemy understand that he has no choice but unconditional withdrawal.

In another comment, *TISHRIN* says: Lebanon has realized the true U.S. stand from the beginning. Lebanese officials have affirmed more than once that the concessions the United States calls for actually mean consecrating the Israeli occupation of some Lebanese territory.

Why then is the U.S. persistent about Lebanese concessions, despite the U.S. knowledge that concessions should be in Lebanon's interest and not in the interest of the aggressor, Israel? Washington undoubtedly links the negotiations on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from the Lebanese territories with the current preparations for holding the second stage of the Camp David conspiracy. This means that the United States wants to quickly compensate its ally Israel for its invasion of Lebanon by forcing Lebanon to relinquish the southern strip of its territories.

AL-THAWRAH on Al-Naqurah Negotiations

JN211020 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Damascus, 21 Dec (SANA) — *AL-THAWRAH* asserts today that the Tel Aviv rulers have once again proven by practice that they are trying to use the Al-Naqurah negotiations as a means of direct pressure on Lebanon to blackmail it, and to force it to make concessions and yield to their aggressive and expansionist conditions.

In its comment under the headline, "Lebanon Is Stronger Than Any Israeli Blackmail," the paper regards the Zionist enemy government's ultimatum to the Lebanese Government yesterday — holding it responsible for the stumbling of the negotiations — as an Israeli logic that is full of clear contradictions.

The paper wonders: How can Israel call the Lebanese Government's demand for its rights to its territories and homeland intransigent, when it also claims that Lebanon has no right to reject all Israeli conditions and proposals?

The paper says that the logic of Zionist blackmail and pressure will not in any way affect Lebanon's stand, which rejects all Israeli maneuvers and provocations, and which insists on the Zionist forces' withdrawal from its territories without restrictions, or any political or military gains.

The paper points out that the courageous Lebanese stand, supported by all Arab and world circles, is the one that has provoked the Zionist enemy and has forced it to intensify pressure and make false accusations against Lebanon. It does because it thinks that pressure and blackmail can be used to achieve what it has failed to achieve by war and aggression.

AL-THAWRAH concludes its comment by saying that Lebanon has become its own master, that it has sufficient ability to unify itself and to establish an independent and solid homeland, and that Syria will continue to give maximum support to Lebanon in its stands. This is because Syria wants to achieve Israeli withdrawal without any delay, gains, or restrictions. It is ready to extend all support and assistance to Lebanon.

Israel Awaits Lebanese Answers in Al-Naqurah Talks

TA201552 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] During today's talks in Al-Naqurah, Israel demanded positive answers to its suggestions when the talks are renewed on 7 January. If Lebanon gives negative answers, Israel will consider whether to continue with the talks. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports from Al-Naqurah:

[Begin recording] [Zohar] The meeting today in the headquarters of the French contingent in UNIFIL is not the last meeting. At least one more meeting will be held in which Israel expects to receive positive answers from the Lebanese concerning our proposals on the deployment of UNIFIL. What does Israel demand, precisely? A deployment of UNIFIL between the Al-Zahrani and Al-Awwali Rivers from the Mediterranean to the Syrian border. To date Lebanon has insisted that its army deploy in this territory. Today the head of the Israeli delegation, Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, used unequivocal language in the meeting: If there is no progress, the Israeli Government will have to ask itself if there is any sense and purpose in the continuation of the talks. We asked Brig Gen Gilbo'a what he believes can induce the Lebanese to bring positive answers on 7 January:

[Gilbo'a] For example, a change in the Syrian position concerning UNIFIL. There should be some kind of pressure on Karami, for in fact Karami is running the negotiations and it is he who completely dictates the Lebanese positions. If these changes do not occur, then the chances are very slim.

[Zohar] It looks as though throughout the negotiations the Lebanese position was tough, and they even retracted their own proposal to deploy UNIFIL, for example, also in Al-Nabatiyah and Sidon.

[Gilbo'a] We came to the Lebanese with extremely useful and serious suggestions concerning the issue of UNIFIL, in which we went a long way toward the Lebanese. These suggestions were discussed in the talks, and to my regret — to our regret — the Lebanese did not reach toward the rope which we gave them, and our suggestion was completely rejected.

[Zohar] The reaction of the Lebanese to the new Israeli stand was one of surprise. They said that they are studying the issue, and at the same time they repeated their old stands. In any event, in today's talks the atmosphere was good, as one of the participants put it, and the direct dialogue between the heads of the delegations continued. At the beginning of the meeting the Israeli delegation gave the UNIFIL members Christmas presents.

To sum up, one chapter of the Al-Naqurah talks ended today. The next chapter will begin in about 3 weeks, on 7 January. Until that time the two sides will do their homework. The ball, in fact, is in the Lebanese court now, and it will be they — by way of what they bring into the next meeting — who will determine the length of the next chapter. [end recording]

Peres 'Disappointed' Over Talks

TA201610 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this afternoon expressed disappointment over the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon in Al-Naqurah, and said no progress has been achieved in the talks between the Lebanese and IDF officers. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, talked about this issue with the prime minister, during a visit he made in the Galilee:

[Begin recording] [Peres] In today's talks it was made perfectly clear that on issues that until now have been seen as self-evident — such as the deployment of the UN forces — the Lebanese side has shown no inclination to take into account the real situation in the territory.

[Horowitz] Mr Prime Minister, right now the Al-Naqurah talks are going on between Israeli and Lebanese officers. Today some reports were published that the talks will in fact be stopped. Are we facing a new situation regarding an arrangement in southern Lebanon?

[Peres] The problem in the Al-Naqurah talks is that to date there has been no real progress, even on an issue such as, for example, the deployment of the UN forces. If we conclude, at some point in the future, that all these talks are only ceremonial, then I really do not see any point in continuing them.

[Horowitz] The prime minister also addressed the U.S. attempts to resolve the problem of southern Lebanon.

[Peres] I believe that the United States is showing goodwill. It wants this goodwill to be expressed in a very low profile way. The Americans were very careful not to make Murphy's mission appear to be a mediation effort or a permanent mission. In the present circumstances I think it is a helpful mission — if not from the point of view of its results, at least from that of the goodwill, especially considering the fact that there are hardly any other alternatives. [end recording]

Further on Peres' Remarks

TA201821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Shim'on Peres also said that government is acting to bring the IDF home as soon as possible, while guaranteeing security arrangements with at least two components: the deployment of the army of southern Lebanon in the southern area, and the stationing of UNIFIL forces in the Al-Awwali region.

Perez de Cuellar To Approach Lebanon on Talks

TA210533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] The UN Secretary General will approach the Lebanese Government to prevent the failure of the Al-Naqurah talks. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that Secretary General Perez de Cuellar made this promise last night to Israel's ambassador

to the United Nations, Binyamin Netanyahu. Ambassador Netanyahu said that the collapse of the talks could lead to an Israeli redeployment in southern Lebanon. He claims that some countries whose soldiers participate in the UN force have informed him that they would consider withdrawing their personnel from UNIFIL if the talks between Lebanon and Israel fail.

Government Military Options in Lebanon Examined

Unilateral Action Satisfies Security

TA201840 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1755 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 20 Dec (ITIM) — Brigadier General Shlomo Ilia, the head of the IDF liaison unit in Lebanon, said today that from the point of view of security, we can attain a satisfactory condition in the northern Galilee by a unilateral withdrawal, even if this withdrawal is short of the international border.

Brig Gen Ilia made these remarks in a discussion on the Arab-language Israeli television program, which was broadcast this evening as part of the "Encounter" program. According to him, at present we can change the IDF's deployment and at the same time attain a satisfactory level of security in northern Israel.

Brig Gen Ilia also said that it is too early to view today's meeting in Al-Naqurah as the last meeting. Ilia thinks that all the military and political contacts currently being held to try to reach security arrangements should be exhausted.

According to him, it is hard to determine with certainty whether the "Amal" organization is strong enough to impose its authority on all of southern Lebanon, but perhaps we should begin a process during which Israel would put the Amal organization to the test and give it gradual control over some territory.

Brig Gen Ilia says that the Shi'ites and other residents in southern Lebanon should realize that our desire to withdraw — including a complete withdrawal from southern Lebanon — does not constitute a weakness, but is rather a desire to arrive at arrangements to leave southern Lebanon free from hostile elements. According to him, the ASL must be seen as a factor which will in the future be integrated in an official Lebanese administration. As long as there is no such factor, however, we view the ASL as a factor whose interest is to keep the area in which it is deployed free from hostile elements.

Finally, he said that if there is a unilateral withdrawal, there will be power struggles between various elements. Perhaps it will be possible to blunt the edge of these struggles by the form and method of our withdrawal.

'Chaos' Seen in Unilateral Action

TA210521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] The head of the Israeli delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks, Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, fears fierce intersectarian clashes if Israel carries out a unilateral withdrawal, in which case the Syrians would have to take care of the chaos. Speaking to our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Brig Gen Gilbo'a said that if a unilateral withdrawal is carried out without an agreement, the Druze might takeover the area held by the Christians and the port of Sidon. Bloody confrontations among the various Shi'ite factions are expected to take place in the course of the Amal organization's attempt to take control of the south. Additionally, the terrorists are expected to again try to return to the area, especially to Sidon. Even now there are more than 2,000 terrorists in Beirut, and they man many headquarters.

Gilbo'a was pessimistic regarding the chances for a change in the Syrians' position on an arrangement in Lebanon during the recess. He believes that Damascus' inflexibility stems from internal difficulties and the isolation in which Syria has found itself in times of power struggles.

Military Options Viewed

TA201940 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Text] The announcement that the Israeli delegation to Al-Naqurah issued at the end of the 11th round of talks was moderate compared to the decisions made by the government on this issue yesterday. During the Cabinet meeting it was stated that the delegation would make it clear to the Lebanese that there is no point in continuing the talks and that they should be stopped at once if the Lebanese do not give positive answers at the end of the recess. Whatever happens, if a miracle does not occur, if the Lebanese do not come to the next round of talks with new instructions, especially from Syria — something which is hardly expected — the apparent action will be a unilateral withdrawal. The IDF is prepared for this and knows how to carry it out; all that it needs now is a green light from the political echelon. In such a case there are at least two main options: one is a partial withdrawal, and the other is a complete withdrawal back to the international border.

A partial withdrawal can be south to a line which is 25 km north of the border. Such a line excludes half of the area currently controlled by the IDF and half of the civilian population. It is estimated this is between 300,000 to 400,000 people, including Sidon residents, who number about 250,000. Such a deployment will also relieve most of the Shi'ites pressure, and will exclude some of the most extremist regions.

Thus, the lines are closer to the border and the advantages here are prominent: shorter supply routes; a smaller force necessary tocontrol the area; an IDF ability to maintain a presence along the Al-Litani River, for example, as well as in other control points; and an IDF ability also to examine the behavior of the Shi'ite population, for example, how this population manages to curb the terrorists. Israel would naturally reserve the right to return to the region if and when necessary and to act against terrorists' organizing.

The limitations of such a deployment are also clear: an IDF need to establish a new line which would cost tens of millions of dollars; and the local population might view this deployment as an indefinite one and this would trigger manifestations of hostility.

The second option is that of withdrawal to the international border. In this case all would be well with one exception: guaranteeing the security of Israel's northern border and the well-being of the northern settlements.

It may be assumed that at the end of the recess in the talks, the action will be one of unilateral moves by Israel that will be aimed at guaranteeing purely Israeli interests. Precisely which line will be decided upon? This is difficult to guess. Here the Army has no choice but to make recommendations, and, once decisions are made, to carry them out.

Cabinet Decision-Making on Lebanese Issue Viewed

TA201848 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Talk-show between Gil'ad Sher and political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — live]

[Text] [Sher] Let us now hear clarifications about the decisions which the Cabinet will have to make on the Lebanese issue. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer is in the studio and we want to check with you whether what happened in Al-Naqurah today or in recent days is, in fact, an attempt to prevent a clash in the Cabinet between the position of Peres and Rabin on the one hand, and Shamir on the other.

[Schiffer] What happened in Al-Naqurah today is in fact a result of the internal struggle which the Jerusalem policymakers tried and wanted to prevent. The announcement today by the Israeli delegation to the Lebanese in Al-Naqurah was sort of an indirect ultimatum, according to which the Lebanese should, by 7 January — the next session for the talks — state whether Lebanon accepts Israel's demand that UNIFIL forces be deployed in those areas in Lebanon which Israel intends to leave. The assessment here, and at the prime minister's office, is that ultimately Lebanon will be unable to accept the Israeli proposal, and thus the Lebanese will in fact aid those in the Cabinet who want to implement a unilateral withdrawal, unilateral arrangements.

In the background we are definitely witnessing a struggle over positions among the policymakers. Matters began with the prime minister this week publicizing his position on the future of arrangements in Lebanon, a position which was repeated in a meeting with a group of the Parents Against Silence movement. Peres made his position public in a talk with journalist Yo'el Marcus in *HA'ARETZ*, where he is quoted as supporting the IDF withdrawal to the international border, that is, taking the risk of a full withdrawal. In that talk Peres said he was not in favor of partial moves or interim solutions.

Later, one evening in the middle of the week he met a group of the Parents Against Silence movement, and on that occasion as well he very clearly talked of a unilateral withdrawal. His remarks were broadcast on Voice of Israel the next morning, after which Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir immediately called the prime minister asking for clarifications.

Matters accelerated in the meeting of the inner Cabinet, where Shim'on Peres in fact disclosed that Yitzhaq Shamir and perhaps, also, other Likud ministers were opposed to such a move. At this stage Shim'on Peres does not want to bring about a breach in the Cabinet. He does not want a crisis following the SHAS crisis, and he is therefore acting cautiously. The ultimatum given the Lebanese today is an indirect one, with the knowledge that their response will be negative.

[Sher] What are we then facing in the coming days during the Cabinet discussions?

[Schiffer] In the coming days we will witness additional discussions in various frameworks, such as the inner Cabinet and the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs — the Cabinet will hold a meeting as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. During these meetings there will be repeated discussions about Israeli policy regarding future arrangements. Some sort of timetable, a future scenario, will be determined. The issue on the agenda will be unilateral arrangements Israel will make when it becomes clear to all parties — including those who want to continue the contacts — that there is no possibility other than implementing unilateral arrangements and abandoning all hope of reaching a settlement with Lebanon. This will be the content of the discussions and matters that will continue until 7 January. Afterward, the prime minister hopes, matters will gain the momentum needed for decision-making.

Likud, Labor Sources Play Down Differences on Lebanon

TA211158 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Report by David Essing]

[Excerpt] Labor and Likud sources today played down the differences between Prime Minister Peres and Foreign Minister Shamir over Lebanon. Labor sources say that while the prime minister talks of an Israeli withdrawal, Peres insists there must be security arrangements for the Galilee. The sources say that Peres is not talking about an unconditional pullback. The prime minister had made this clear to Foreign Minister Shamir. For his part, the Likud leader speaks of reducing the size of Israeli forces in south Lebanon and of a possible redeployment.

Another Israeli source believes the Army's assessment will be the major factor in the Cabinet's upcoming discussions and decisions on Lebanon. On this note, defense sources have said that any new Israeli lines in south Lebanon must make it possible to control the area from which Katyusha rockets can be fired at northern Israel.

Shamir Comments on Talks With Lebanon, Egypt
TA211025 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Excerpts] "Israel should tell Lebanon and those who stand behind her that 'unless there are satisfactory security arrangements on the border, the IDF will stay in Lebanon in one form or another.'"

This forceful declaration was made yesterday by Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, following the adjournment — in deadlock — of the Al-Naqurah talks for the Christmas recess.

In an interview with *THE JERUSALEM POST* marking 100 days of the unity government, Shamir said that once the "inner Cabinet" began discussing options for a unilateral redeployment, there might well be differences between ministers of the same party — both in his own Likud and in Labour. He said he would regard this as healthy and natural.

On the dispute with Egypt over Tabah, Shamir said the Egyptians "don't speak about the process prescribed in the peace treaty (negotiation, conciliation, arbitration). They just say: 'Give us it back and finished!'"

Shamir said an exchange of special emissaries between President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres was still imminent. The Egyptians had "not backed away" from that idea, despite its disclosure by the Israeli media after he (Shamir) had mentioned it to the Cabinet.

The vice premier and Likud leader asserted that Peres would be acting beyond his authority if he made territorial proposals to Jordan or even if he solicited Jordan's reactions to territorial ideas. "I do not presume that the prime minister would do such a thing, in excess of his authority...it would be improper," Shamir added. He said that as far as he knew to date Peres had made no such overture to Amman.

Lebanon

"Our first priority — and this is enshrined in the government's basic policy-guidelines — is to ensure security arrangements. I do not see any positive inclination on the part of the Lebanese.

"The rumours which abound, and which reach the ears of the Lebanese and the Syrians, that Israel intends to withdraw at any price — these rumours prevent progress. The Syrians say, 'if they're going to go anyway, why should we negotiate?'

"The prime minister has denied to me that he gave the impression (in recent statements) that he would favour full withdrawal without security arrangements."

Shamir said he had consistently felt the Lebanon issue was "not a matter of principle," and therefore differences between policy-makers as to what constituted adequate security arrangements need not follow party-political lines. Such differences (between or within the two main parties) would be "natural. Someone might think that security can only be ensured by the IDF staying there. Someone else may believe that a very limited IDF presence is all that is required. A third view may be that cooperation with a local Lebanese force is enough. It is a matter of determining what is the most effective means of attaining security for the north."

Shamir did not elaborate on his own view, saying only that "security arrangements are a military question requiring a military answer. The IDF will give the answer..."

While he would regard it as "healthy" if there were differences between ministers of the same party over these substantive issues, it would be "negative," Shamir said, if such differences within his own party spilled over to blur with the internal leadership rivalries.

Egypt

The vice premier said he did not know if he differed from Peres over Tabah, because the unity Cabinet had not yet held a discussion on the subject.

His own view was that it was "no tragedy" if a territorial dispute between neighbours living at peace took some time to resolve.

The dispute-resolution process prescribed in the peace treaty spoke of conciliation or arbitration, and Israel had always preferred to approach this in the order in which it was written. Conciliaion was a "softer, more flexible" framework than arbitration. It facilitated mutual persuasion and allowed for the possibility of compromise. Moreover, its outcome was not binding on the parties.

But the Egyptians had "never taken conciliation seriously into account," Shamir observed. "I don't know why."

In fact, they seemed not to heed the negotiation-conciliation-arbitration recipe at all. He added, "They just say, 'give us it back and finished.'"

As for Israel, it had not yet decided that the initial stage of negotiation had been exhausted. There were constant contacts and negotiations taking place. "At one stage we said, 'Let us talk about the machinery for a final resolution of Tabah's status — in the context of talks about many other issues and violations which you (Egyptians) have committed, such as the withdrawal of the ambassador.' That is still the position today."

Shamir made it clear, in some off-the-record remarks, that he did not believe the ceding of Tabah could open the way to a "thaw" in the cold peace with Egypt.

He also left no doubt, in some colourful not-for-attribution statements, that he utterly opposed and distrusted any attempt by Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman (Alignment-Yahad) to negotiate (Shamir would say "meddle") between Israel and Egypt.

He dismissed with injured outrage the accusation, voiced in some Alignment quarters, that he had deliberately reported to the Cabinet — rather than the Ministerial Defence Committee — on the imminent exchange of high-level emissaries in order to foil it. "God forbid," he said. "And anyway — the fact is they (the Egyptians) have not backed off on this."

Shamir Assesses Unity Government's First 100 Days

TA210657 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer with Shamir, in the foreign minister's residence in Jerusalem, and by announcer Shalon Qital, by telephone in the studio — live]

[Text] [Qital] Good morning to you, Mr Shamir.

[Shamir] Good morning.

[Qital] How do you explain that, despite the fact that this is such a broad government, enjoying the support of so many Knesset members, you were unable to avoid crises on issues that could actually have been resolved? I am not talking about negotiations with Husayn or anything of the sort, but about economic or functional matters.

[Shamir] Well, matters are complex and involved, and the very establishment of a national unity government could not in itself resolve these problems very quickly. The advantage of such a government lies in the fact that when a certain plan is decided upon and worked out, the government has the power to execute it. However, the difficulty lies in consolidating the plans, in mustering the understanding and agreement among all the various sectors in the economy, and working out the right plan.

[Qital] Do you feel that at present you have confidence in Shim'on Peres and other Alignment figures who were your opponents and, I presume, will be your opponents in the future as well?

[Shamir] It is not a question of having confidence in someone; it is a question of the realization that at present it is necessary to maintain a broad-based, joint government, a national unity government, that will have the power to carry out difficult steps when they are decided upon.

[Schiffer] Do you have any feeling of exaltation upon marking the 100th day of the national unity government? Has the government achieved anything in the past 3 months?

[Shamir] No doubt things have been done, and likewise there is no doubt that others were prevented — things that could have happened were it not for the establishment of this government. Let us not forget that 3 months ago, Israel's democratic system was in the midst of a crisis and Israel was totally incapable of setting up a government that could handle state affairs. Right now, there is a government which is capable of conducting affairs — which it does — and there is a sound hope for success in carrying out the missions this government has undertaken.

[Schiffer] With your permission, let us deal with something the government apparently has to handle immediately: Lebanon. Can you tell the IDF soldiers in Lebanon something? After all, there has been talk about a redeployment and the soldiers, too, follow the broadcasts and what happens at Al-Naqurah. When will Israel redeploy? When will it finally decide quo vadis in Lebanon?

[Shamir] Until yesterday, an attempt was made to obtain security arrangements acceptable to the Lebanese Government and the other local factors. To date, these negotiations have not succeeded, which is why Israel now has to decide on its course. I believe that in the next few weeks, we will decide on our next moves. If they are not mutually acceptable, they will be steps determined exclusively by us, and then undoubtedly we will reach a solution which admittedly might not be ideal, but will still be one that will guarantee peace for the Galilee and involve a limited IDF presence in Lebanon.

[Qital] Limited presence, or a unilateral withdrawal, if necessary?

[Shamir] I would beware of saying a unilateral withdrawal, if the intention is to withdraw to the international border. Israel cannot now, or in the future, withdraw all its forces from Lebanon, as long as there are no security arrangements that will guarantee that terrorists will not return to the border to attack the Galilee once again.

[Qital] Mr Vice Prime Minister, you have heard what economists say, and I believe their criticism is not merely polemical or to tease you. The feeling is that the government is not consolidating an economic plan. What have you to say about this?

[Shamir] It is true that the government has not yet taken all the steps required by the situation. It has made progress — and everyone admits that — and has taken a few steps. First of all, it created the right atmosphere necessary to carry out those rehabilitation steps we had to undertake. This was not done fast enough, as demanded by the state of affairs or our friends in the United States. Still, I am convinced that we will find both the strength and the courage to do these things as soon as possible.

[Qital] Let us talk a bit about the functioning of the government and intergovernmental relations, as well as relations among the members of the party you represent. Shim'on Schiffer, please.

[Schiffer] Mr Vice Prime Minister, are you pleased with your status in this framework — first your status within Likud, with David Levi and Ari'el Sharon. Do you regard yourself as the leader of this team?

[Shamir] The description of all the differences of opinion has been grossly exaggerated. After all, they focused on marginal issues. In essence, we all share views on the main objectives, be they in the sphere of economics, security, or policy.

[Schiffer] When Prime Minister Peres assesses these 100 days and says that one thing that has changed is style, or handling the catastrophe left over by Likud — what effect does this have on you as one who led the government before Shim'on Peres?

[Shamir] I am not happy with these statements, but I am not sure they were said precisely as you quote them. I believe that in the past the Likud governments achieved great things, important things, in the social and economic spheres.

[Schiffer] But do you not share the assessment that there is truly a difference in the style of political life since the national unity government has been established and since Shim'on Peres began conducting our affairs?

[Shamir] The change came about due to the very fact that there is a national unity government, and the jarring notes of a constant confrontation between two political camps which want to torpedo each other even in the most important national fields have disappeared from political life. At present there is an atmosphere of coexistence, of joint action, or, as I said earlier: The government must decide and find the right ways, and the decisions will then be implemented, and the government will follow them — which was impossible during the times of a narrow-based government of any type.

[Qital] Mr Shamir, does what happened during the crisis with SHAS and the exchange of accusations not worry you in the sense that perhaps, in 2 years, the rotation you are waiting for may not happen?

[Shamir] I am not worried about what will happen in 2-years time. I worry about the very near future, so that we will be able to resolve the most pressing problems. In the SHAS crisis, which in itself was not surprising because in such a government it is only natural for crises to emerge — the manner and speed with which we resolved the crisis is encouraging. It is encouraging to notice that this government does have the power to overcome crises and move onward toward fulfilling the real missions. We have done so, and we are ready to carry out the government's real objectives.

[Schiffer] Perhaps I will ask another question on something we have already discussed with the vice prime minister: You mentioned that this week you will handle the harassment of the Soviet Jews and the aliyah activists. There have been reports on this, and I would like to ask you: What have you been doing in this respect?

[Shamir] We are all greatly shocked by the news and the reports that have been flowing in a large stream from the Soviet Union on very grave harassment and persecution, trials, arrests, and beatings given to people who are active in this area. The impression is that someone in the Soviet Union is assailing our aliyah activists and wants to immediately destroy, oppress, or break that glorious opposition that has been established in the Soviet Union. We are doing everything to arouse world opinion. Demonstrations are being held in many parts of the world against this phenomenon; we have approached many world foreign ministries, demanding their immediate intervention with the Soviet authorities so that this is terminated. We are pursuing the campaign of warning against this, and of changing public opinion so that the anti-Semitic elements in the Soviet Union will not be able to carry out their evil wish.

[Qital] Mr Vice Prime Minister, we thank you for being our guest on this auspicious program marking the first 100 days of the national unity government. Thank you, also, Shim'on Schiffer, there with the vice prime minister.

Peres on Possible U.S. Approval of Aid Request

TA201748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres does not rule out the possibility that the United States will approve the entire aid request submitted by Israel. At the same time, Peres says, the Americans are justified in stipulating that the aid must complement the moves that Israel will adopt.

[Begin Peres recording] I know that the U.S. Administration's acceptance of the request is largely dependent on our ability to implement the right moves at home. This is not a result of wickedness; they want, and justly so, in my opinion, to be convinced that the aid they extend to us will be used to help us in the right direction and not to compensate us for a lack of direction or for going in the wrong direction. [end recording]

Saudi Arabia Considers Diplomatic, Trade Relations

TA210645 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Dec 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Saudi Crown Prince Fahd [title as published] has recently stated that Saudi Arabia will establish diplomatic and trade relations with Israel after the latter has withdrawn from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It has been learned that Fahd made these remarks in a meeting with a senior Italian Government official and a report to this effect has been conveyed to Jerusalem.

Observers emphasize that Saudi Arabia has in the past expressed its willingness to recognize Israel in the framework of the [Fes] 8-point plan. However, the possibility of establishing diplomatic and trade relations was not mentioned then.

It is noted that Prince Fahd's remarks came against the background of the rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Egypt and the rumors about a resumption of the relations between these two countries.

Government Gives Agricultural Information to Jordan

TA201522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Israel has given Jordan agricultural information to help it develop the eastern bank of the Jordan River. This was disclosed by the agriculture minister today during a tour of the Jordan Valley.

Our correspondent Menahem Friedman explains that the information was given to Jordan to help it establish a green strip on the eastern bank, thus contributing to calm in the region.

The Jordan Valley residents protested to Minister Arye Nehamkin that the government is not allocating enough resources for the development of the region.

Arab Local Councils Receive Financial Aid

TA201836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] This month the Interior Ministry transferred large grants to the Arab local authorities. The heads of the Arab local councils said they still need another 4 billion shekels in order to overcome the deficits incurred so far. In the wake of the prime minister's promise on this issue, the Interior Ministry will transfer additional sums of money to these councils next month.

Bar-Lev Denies Interview on U.S. Embassy Attack

TA210729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev has denied granting an interview to a reporter from *THE WASHINGTON POST* on a story the Israeli police have held up for publication [involving a planned attack against the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv]. Yesterday the paper published details which it claims were confirmed by Bar-Lev by telephone. The afternoon newspaper *MA'ARIV* has also published a security-related story, and is being investigated by the Tel Aviv police.

AL-QUDS Publishes Details on Embassy Attack

TA210850 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] The East Jerusalem *AL-QUDS* this morning published the details of the security affair which the court has banned from publication [involving a planned attack against the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv]. It was reported last night that the police have opened an investigation of *MA'ARIV* on suspicion that it had published a report on the affair in contravention of the court order.

Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev has denied providing information to *THE WASHINGTON POST* on the matter. He said that a U.S. journalist had indeed contacted him and asked him to confirm the specifics, but according to Bar-Lev, he denied the matter.

Papers To Face 'Measures'

TA210859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0844 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Here are some more details on the mysterious security affair banned from publication: The police spokesman has said that measures will be taken against the East Jerusalem papers which published the banned report. Three East Jerusalem papers — *AL-QUDS*, *AL-FAJR*, and *AL-SHA'B* — this morning published the details of this security affair. The East Jerusalem papers quote AFP in saying that Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev confirmed the report in an interview with *THE WASHINGTON POST*. As reported earlier, Minister Bar-Lev denied having passed on any information on the matter to the U.S. paper. One of the East Jerusalem papers cites the *MA'ARIV* report into which the police launched an investigation yesterday, and which is still blacked out.

Peres Receives Message From Spain's Gonzalez

TA210930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0922 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this morning received a personal message from Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, brought by Knesset Member [MK] Mikha Harish, who participated in the Spanish Socialist Party convention in Madrid. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that the message deals with the issue of mutual relations and the establishment of diplomatic ties between Spain and Israel.

In the past, the prime minister had asked MK Harish to maintain direct contact between himself and Mr Gonzalez, who headed the party in Spain.

Another revelation on this matter: MK Harish disclosed that he had participated in clandestine meetings of the Socialist leadership in Spain when they were still in the underground, during Franco's time. He also disclosed that Gonzalez had visited Israel anonymously.

IDF Dismantles Jewish Settlement in Hebron

TA201455 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1425 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Hebron, 20 Dec (ITIM) — Today the IDF dismantled an infrastructure established by Qiryat 'Arba residents in a lot near Khirbat al-Rumaythah in Hebron.

The ITIM correspondent reports that the Qiryat 'Arba residents took the initiative in developing the area because, according to them, the authorities responsible for settlements are procrastinating on the issue of establishing a Jewish settlement in the area.

A few months ago a number of trailers were transferred to Khirbat al-Rumaythah during the night, and a few families settled there. The authorities responsible for the settlements, however, say that they cannot develop the place as long as a decision on this issue is not made by the government.

Elyaqim Ha'etzni, who is a lawyer and one of Gush Emunim's leaders, claims that the defense minister has decided to freeze the settlement in Hebron as a result of an agreement with King Husayn. This agreement was one of the basic subjects in the negotiations with Husayn.

Gush Emunim has appealed in letters to government ministers belonging to the national and religious camp, calling on them to work toward establishing the settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah.

Curfew on Al-Duhayshah Refugee Camp Lifted

TA201929 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The Al-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem was under curfew during most of the afternoon. This after stones were thrown at passing cars outside the camp. Two Israelis were injured by broken glass from shattered car windows. The stone-throwing occurred during a march by supporters of the Jewish underground defendents which went by the camp. Jerry Cheslow reports:

[Begin recording] The curfew was imposed at about 1500 this afternoon and was lifted 3 hours later. It followed the stoning of two Israeli vehicles on the Jerusalem-Hebron road which passes through the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp. In the incident two Israelis were injured by shattered windshield glass.

The stonings came during a march by 1,500 Israelis in solidarity with the Jewish underground detainees. The march went from Solomon's Pools to the Cremisan Monastery near Bethlehem, where an Al-Duhayshah resident allegedly murdered two Israeli university students in October. The marchers had wanted to go down the main highway, right past Al-Duhayshah, but the police permitted them only to skirt the camp by walking on the overlooking hilltops. However, several marchers did in fact walk down the main road to visit Rabbi Moshe Levinger, who has been staging a sit-in for nearly 2 months in front of the camp to protest what he considers the government's lack of action against stone-throwing. The incident occurred almost directly across from where the rabbi was sitting. Camp residents claim that Levinger's protest is a provocation. Levinger refused to speak with reporters after the stoning.

At least four camp youths were arrested by border police just before the curfew was imposed. Since then security forces scoured the camp for other youths suspected of stoning the Israeli cars. Local residents say that dozens of people have been taken for interrogation. [end recording]

MAPAM's Shemtov Announces Resignation as Secretary

TA201523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Victor Shemtov this afternoon informed the MAPAM Central Committee that he has decided to withdraw from the post of party secretary upon reaching the age of 70. According to Shemtov, MAPAM needs a younger secretary now more than ever, as MAPAM is facing two challenges: strengthening itself, and becoming a focus around which the leftist-camp components will unite.

Briefs

West Bank Unemployment — The first signs of possible unemployment in the territories: 4 percent of the West Bank Arabs employed in Israel lost their jobs last month. This percent is equivalent to nearly 2,000 of the 48,000 Arab workers who were mostly employed in menial capacities for municipalities that are now short of funds. Others were laid off by industry and a small number from the building trade. The head of the Economic Department of the Civilian Administration said he was not worried at this point since the makeup of the labor force in the territories is more mobile than in Israel and the workers are more willing to settle for jobs that Israelis would not want. [Summary] [*Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Dec 84 TA*]

ALGERIA

APS Reports on Honecker Visit Communique

LD201321 Algiers APS in English 1025 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Algiers, 20/12/84 (APS) — At the end of the official visit that Mr Erich Honecker, secretary general of the German Unified Socialist Party and president of GDR State Council paid in Algeria from 17 to 19 December 1984 at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN party secretary general, a press communique was released yesterday.

It referred to talks which took place in a cordial atmosphere. The two sides, the communique pointed out, hailed friendship relations existing between the two states and the two peoples. They devoted particular attention to bilateral cooperation and the examination of the evolution of the international situation. In this context, they put a stress on the part to be played by the intergovernmental joint committee in the setting up of these conditions for the achievement of the common objective of a greater development of bilateral cooperation.

By proceeding to a global examination of the international situation the two sides expressed their high concern before the aggravation of tensions and dangers it poses for the promotion of real peace and security.

The two sides stressed their conviction that the release of international tensions passes through the transformation of the whole international relations on the basis of justice and equity. [sentence as received] They agreed that the reorganization of international relations can only but result from the respect of the principles of self determination and national independence, the inviolability of borders, the non-interference in local affairs, the non-resort to threat or the utilization of power and the free choice for all the peoples of their own political, economic and social system.

In this context, the two sides expressed their support for efforts aimed at relaunching the global negotiations in the frame of the U.N. system for the establishment of a new international economic order.

The communique finally indicated that President Chadli Bendjedid accepted the invitation of President Erich Honecker to pay official visit in GDR.

French Agriculture Minister Comments on Visit

LD202155 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The head of state this morning received the UAE minister of economy and trade currently visiting Algeria, within the framework of the meetings of the mixed commission.

The president of the Republic also gave an audience to the French minister of agriculture, whose visit to Algeria has just ended. Mr Michel Rocard handed the head of state a message from President Mitterrand. The French minister of agriculture has thus just ended his visit to Algeria, during which he has had a series of talks with Algerian officials.

After the Franco-Algerian talks, what is the state of Algerian-French cooperation? This is the question Meryem Yassim put to Mr Michel Rocard, just before his departure.

[Begin Rocard recording] I am now ending a visit which has gone very well and with which I am personally very happy. The president of the Algerian Republic has been good enough to receive me, and this meeting permitted us to assess the situation of Algerian-French relations. We went into this in more detail, deeper with the foreign minister and with the prime minister also, but the purpose of my visit was centered more on technical, scientific, and economic cooperation in the field of agriculture and food, for which I am responsible.

Our observation is that the agreement concluded between President Bendjedid and President Francois Mitterrand has intensified links. Relations between France and Algeria are considered to have benefitted from mutual priority in the two countries. This is shown by the considerable development of exchanges between us, and this is a very good thing. It strengthens our solidarity, but, strangely, the development of cooperation has not progressed as fast. So, we had to find out why and to take the necessary measures to improve the situation. I think this is what we have done.

We noticed that often our administration... [changes thought] and we have discussed our plans for cooperation, wanting to go into detail, which in fact was more the domain of the operators, our offices, and our businessess. The decision was made to rely further on cooperation involving the joint responsibility of the operators, if you like. I have in fact met the minister of agriculture, the minister of hydraulics and forestry [as heard], and the minister of light industry. This corresponds to my own responsibilities, because I have responsibility as a minister for agriculture, forestry, and the food industry in France all at once. In all these areas we have sketched out a certain number of fields of cooperation and determined the difficulties, even of understanding, which may have arisen here and there. We are now sure that we can launch many useful projects corresponding to Algeria's requests.

The difficulties were not very numerous. The main one regarded the nature of technology transfer. This has too often been treated as a transfer of machines, a transfer of processes, as if the transfer of technology were the equivalent of transferring a little book which explains everything about the way of doing this or that. This is a false image. The transfer of technology is complete only when the know-how is passed on to Algerian hands, know-how to people. The machine is merely a complementary thing.

We have signed the minutes of our talks, which run to five or six pages, which define a certain number of areas. It is accompanied by an addendum which is very rich and will allow us to enable our collaborators to work much better, very quickly. [end recording].

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Returns From Visit to Spain

LD201808 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Brother leader of the revolution ended a visit to the Spanish Island of Majorca, and returned this evening to the Jamahiriyah.

During this visit a meeting was held between brother leader of the revolution and Mr Felipe Gonzalez, the prime minister of Spain, and Mr Bruno Kreisky, the former chancellor of Austria. The 5-hour meeting dealt with current international affairs, the issue of peace in the Mediterranean, and existing cooperative relations between the Jamahiriyah and Spain.

This morning, brother leader of the revolution met a large number of journalists and correspondents of international news agencies at his residence on the Island of Majorca.

Commercial Agreement Signed With Malta

LD201013 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Maltese Minister of Industry Karmenu Vela has praised the existing bilateral cooperation in all fields between his country and the Jamahiriyah. He stressed that this cooperation is advancing rapidly in all fields.

In a statement reported by JANA following the signing of a commercial cooperation agreement and the minutes of the meeting which took place in Tripoli yesterday, he said: We are aiming to bring our economic relations up to the level of the good political relations which bind our countries.

He added: We will continue our work in this same spirit in order to develop and increase this cooperation.

In Tripoli yesterday, the minutes of a meeting on bilateral cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Malta in the agricultural field were also signed. The secretary of the middle agricultural region signed for the Jamahiriyah, and the Maltese minister of agriculture signed for the Republic of Malta. A commercial agreement between the Jamahiriyah and Malta was also signed. [passage indistinct]

Greek Deputy Defense Minister Arrives in Tripoli

LD202016 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1833 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Dec (JANA) — Greek Deputy Minister of National Defense Pavsanias Zakolikos arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. He was met at Tripoli airport by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and by several other officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

Begins Talks With Jabir

LD202033 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Dec (JANA) — A working session was held here this evening between Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and Pavsanias Zakolikos, Greek deputy minister of defense.

The session was attended by officials from both sides.

JANA: Gunt Leader Confirms Libyan Withdrawal

LD211002 Tripoli JANA in English 0847 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Faya, Rabi Awal 28, Dec. 21, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Chadian National Unity Government, confirmed the withdrawal of the Libyan support elements from the Chadian soil in accordance with the Libyan-French agreement.

In a press conference held in the city of Faya, capital of the Chadian north, yesterday, and attended by JANA envoy, French TV 1st channel correspondents, the French *LIBERATION* paper, the BBC radio and TV correspondents, he said that the circulating allegation of the continual presence of some Libyan supporting elements is an American imperialist-led attempt aimed at consolidating the French occupation of Chad, and dispatching French forces in this civil-torn African country.

The head of the National Unity Government, Goukouni added that rebel Habre and his fascist gang are facing a huge popular uprising in the south of the country, affirming that this gang launched a campaign of liquidation at large against the people in the south. However, the uprising has widened and is at present threatening Ndjamena itself.

Goukouni revealed that large numbers of people in the south fled to the neighbouring African countries, fearing acts of violence and humiliation carried out by the rebel Habre's forces against them.

He affirmed that the National Unity Government is still committed to national conciliation among the various Chadian units, pointing out that rebel Habre, [words indistinct] the present date, rejects this concept as his sole concern is the total possession of power, the defeat of the Chadian people (?and) subjecting the country for the subservience of colonialist imperialist aims.

Goukouni also spoke about the current military situation in Chad. He affirmed that the popular liberation army has a total hold of the north and a large part of the centre, the east and the south, and that some of the army's elements joined up with the inhabitants of the south who are at the forefront of a popular uprising against the violence of the rebelling gang.

Commenting on the recent statements of the French president, he said that it has become clear to President Mitterrand that the person which France supports militarily and economically is no more than a butcher lacking the respect of the Chadian people.

MAURITANIA

General Amnesty for Political Prisoners Announced

AB211635 Paris AFP in French 1547 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Colonel Maaouyia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya, the new Mauritanian head of state, officially announced on Friday a general amnesty for all persons in and outside the country convicted for political reasons.

Former Mauritanian Presidents Ould Saleck and Ould Daddah, as well as former Prime Minister Bneijara and other personalities convicted for "attacks on state security and connivance with foreign countries," will benefit from this measure, Col Ould Taya added, indicating however that "no attempts at destabilizing the country or undermining its supreme interest will be tolerated."

Observers note that such a general amnesty will enable opposition parties in exile to return to Mauritania. The Mauritanian Alliance for Democracy (AMD) and the Mauritanian National Union Movement (UNM) had earlier expressed their support for Col Ould Taya, as early as the first few hours following the 12 December coup d'etat.

Finally, Col Ould Taya said he was going to work for the revival of the national economy which was "brought to a standstill by waste, embezzlement of public funds, and the personal cult established into the system of government" by President Haidala, who was overthrown on 12 December 1984 while he was attending the Franco-African summit in Bujumbura.

Paper Praises Release of Political Prisoners

AB201945 Paris AFP in French 1414 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Nouakchott, 20 Dec (AFP) — The Mauritanian daily *CHAAB* hailed the release of 164 political prisoners by the new Mauritanian regime this week as a measure to "safeguard the fundamental freedom of the citizens."

"This release of prisoners will certainly improve the image of Mauritania abroad, an image that was deeply tarnished by the former regime's actions," the paper said. "From now on, no one will have to complain about any practices of inquisition or any other form of injustice. The law will be the same for everybody within a state where citizens feel secure and protected," the paper said.

Most of the released persons had been arrested at the beginning of the year on charges of taking part in foreign-inspired disturbances. They belong to opposition groups called "pro-Libyans" and "Baasists."

A reliable source disclosed that the new Mauritanian leaders envisage the release of all political prisoners in order to create a healthy atmosphere favorable to the development of the country.

Briefs

Islamic Affairs Adviser Appointed — According to a decree issued today by the Military Committee for National Salvation, Mahfudh al-Murabit was appointed as adviser to the head of state in charge of Islamic Affairs. [Text] [*Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 20 Dec 84 LD*]

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Receives Czech Culture Minister

LD202326 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] This evening Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali received Milan Klusak, Czech minister of culture, who stated that he conveyed to Mr Mzali greetings from Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak to President Habib Bourguiba, and also greetings from the Czechoslovak prime minister. He also noted that the talks dealt with bilateral cultural cooperation and the programs prepared in this respect, developing this cooperation, and deepening it in the various cultural fields.

Prime Minister Receives Romanian Trade Official

LD202318 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] At the government palace in Casba this evening, the prime minister received Mr Gheorghe Cazan, the Romanian first deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, who stated following the meeting that he was honored by meeting Mr Mzali. He further stated that he conveyed to the prime minister a message from President Nicolae Ceausescu, Romanian Communist Party secretary general and head of state, expressing appreciation and wishes for good health and long life to President Habib Bourguiba so that he might continue to lead Tunisia along the path of progress and prosperity. The guest also said he had conveyed a message from Mr Mzali's Romanian counterpart renewing the invitation for the prime minister to visit Romania. The meeting, he added, dealt with the development of economic cooperation between the two countries during 1984 and the prospects for developing and deepening this cooperation in 1985 and beyond.

ETHIOPIA

EPLF Claims 70 Enemy Dead in 17 Dec Attack

NC201739 Paris AFP in English 1736 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Paris, Dec 20 (AFP) — Seventy Ethiopian soldiers were killed and 55 taken prisoner in a night-time attack on Monday by forces of the Eritrean People's Liberation Army (EPLA) on the town of Decamere, the EPLA said in a statement received here today.

The statement added that many refugees fleeing famine in the neighbouring province of Tigre were currently heading towards Decamere, which is located south of the Red Sea port of Asmara, the Eritrean provincial capital.

The EPLA is the military wing of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the main group fighting for independence for Eritrea, Ethiopia's northern-most province.

Large quantities of weapons were seized in the attack, the statement said.

UGANDA

Further Reportage on Zambian Leader's Visit

Kaunda Addresses Rally

MB201905 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] President Kaunda has launched a scathing attack on people who failed to condemn deposed dictator Idi Amin's reign of terror in Uganda for fear of interfering in the internal affairs of another country. He called them stupid idiots.

Addressing a rally in (Gula), about 500 km from Kampala, Dr Kaunda said those who did not condemn Amin then had no moral or spiritual right to denounce racist South Africa for her apartheid policy, because they kept quiet on someone who was killing God's people day in and day out.

An angry Dr Kaunda told a (? packed) crowd that Zambia supports Dr Milton Obote, who he described as a great speaker, organiser, and administrator, because of the sane politics and principles that he and his ruling Uganda People's Congress stood for.

President Kaunda reiterated his call for unity and hard work among Ugandans, which he has made since his arrival on Tuesday. Presidents Kaunda and Obote are due to sign a joint permanent commission between Zambia and Uganda today to mark the end of the state visit to Uganda by Dr Kaunda.

Later today the Zambian leader will then fly to Bujumbura, Burundi, to attend the Preferential Trade Area heads of state summit which opens there tomorrow.

Agreement Signed, Communique Issued

EA201941 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] President Obote and President Kaunda have expressed satisfaction with the progress being made in implementing regional cooperation and understanding. This is contained in a joint communique issued by the two heads of state at the end of the 3-daystate visit to Uganda by President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia. The communique followed the signing of an agreement for the establishment of a joint permanent commission of cooperation between the two countries at Entebbe by both presidents.

The agreement aims at strengthening political, economic, commercial, social and cultural relations between the two countries. It will also promote scientific and technical cooperation based on absolute equality with a view to raising the living standards of their peoples as soon as possible.

The two leaders expressed their confidence in the PTA [Preferential Trade Area] as an instrument for dynamic economic development within the region. They expressed the hope that all countries in the region will soon find it possible to participate effectively in the PTA as full members.

During the state visit, Dr Kaunda and Dr Obote reviewed the economic situation in Africa and especially the plight of drought and famine stricken countries in Africa. In this connection, they expressed their support for the decision taken at the 20th summit of the OAU to set up an emergency fund to help the affected areas. They agreed that the holding of this summit was a demonstration that African leaders are capable of solving their own problems without outside interference.

The two leaders reviewed the situation in southern Africa and expressed concern at the lack of progress and delay in the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978.

They condemned the U.S. and South Africa's continued insistence on linking Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban forces in Angola. The former is a clearcut colonial issue and has been treated as such by the UN and the international community. The latter, on the other hand, is a bilateral arrangement which is by no means unique between two independent and soveriegn states.

On the question of South Africa's policy of apartheid, the two heads of state agreed that recent cosmetic constitutional reforms which provide for separate representation constitute a blatant attempt to deride the oppressed people in South Africa. The recent demonstration by the opponents of apartheid inside South Africa is a clear testimony that apartheid cannot just be reformed, but has to be dismantled.

They expressed their disapproval of the United States' so-called policy of constructive engagement. In this regard, the two presidents reaffirmed their united conviction that the core of the problem in southern Africa is the apartheid system which the racist minority regime in South Africa continues to sustain and strengthen in a variety of ways, including the brutal internal repression of the African majority, the pursuit of a campaign of

aggression and destabilization, economic sabotage against independent neighbouring states and the expansion of South Africa's war machinery. These developments not only threaten the stability of the region but also gravely endanger international peace and security.

They reaffirmed their total and unequivocal condemnation of apartheid as a crime against humanity and their total rejection of all policies designed to perpetuate this inhuamn system, and called on the international community to strengthen its collective resolve to eradicate the obnoxious system of apartheid.

Reviewing the international scene, the two leaders expressed their concern at the markedly deteriorating international situation characterized by the decline from detente to confrontation, military intervention and the unprecedented buildup of more lethal nuclear arms which threaten the very survival of mankind. They noted the estimated annual military expenditure which has reached a trillion dollar mark and is in sharp contrast to the growing inadequacy of the resources for the international community to agree on ways and means of alleviating world poverty.

The two presidents were of the view that a solution to the rapidly deteriorating international situation lies in the enhancement of the role, effectiveness and capability of the UN. They considered the UN to be an irreplaceable instrument of peaceful cooperationwhere all countries may exercise their influence with r e g a r d t o the settlement of controversial world issues in the interest of safeguarding and preserving world peace.

They called upon the two superpowers to resolutely move towards bilateral arms control negotiations and to reduce the dangers of nuclear catastrophes. In this context, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the policy of nonalignment.

The two presidents also condemned the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who at the time of her death was the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

The Zambian leader paid the visit at the invitation of Dr Obote.

During his stay, President Kaunda addressed the Uganda Parliament, visited Soroti and Gulu, where he addressed two public rallies, and met a cross-section of the people in the respective regions. Dr Kaunda and Dr Obote held discussions on a wide range of international, regional, and bilateral matters.

The Zambian president expressed gratitude and appreciation to Dr Obote, the government, and the people of Uganda for the reception and generous hospitality which he and his delegation were accorded during their stay in Uganda.

The president of the Republic of Zambia again extended an invitation to president Obote to visit Zambia on a mutually convenient date. President Obote accepted the invitation.

CHAD

Official Condemns Dumas Implication of Habre

AB202045 Paris AFP in French 1320 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Paris, 20 Dec (AFP) — Mahamat Nouri, external relations commissioner of the National Union for Independence and Revolution, the only Chadian party, on Thursday in Paris described the statement by French Minister of External Relations Roland Dumas — in which he implicitly held President Hissein Habre responsible for the death in Chad nearly 10 years ago of Major Galopin — as "insulting" and "unfriendly."

At the National Assembly Wednesday, in reply to General Marcel Bigeard — a member of parliament of the Union for French Democracy who had criticized the government for prematurely withdrawing its military support for President Habre — Mr Dumas paid tribute to the French soldiers who fell in various operations in Chad, adding: "I refer also to Maj Galopin, who was assassinated, as you know, by the ones, or the one, whose cause, it seems, you want to support."

"It is not normal to make such a statement," Mahamat Nouri, who is on a visit to Paris, told AFP, "especially when it does not conform with the truth and levels an accusation against a head of state."

Mr Nouri said the description of the situation in southern Chad was "exaggerated," where, he said, the Ndjamena forces are fighting antigovernment commandos. After recalling that "several Chadian cadres" from the south were serving their country in the government and administration, Mr Nouri said that it was presently not in the interest of the Libyans to resume the fighting in Chad by attempting to move further south.

"If, in 1980, he said, we had only Kalashnikovs (Soviet assault guns) as opposed to the Libyan tanks, today we have the means of fighting the Tripoli forces without asking for help from France." "The present situation has led Chad to assume its responsibilities and to count on its own strength," he said.

Referring to the problem of national reconciliation, Mr Nouri asserted that the Chadian Government was ready to negotiate anything, apart from "anarchy" in order to reach a common political stand. But, he added, "the key to peace in Chad is not in Ndjamena, but in Tripoli."

Libyan Plane Overflies Government Positions

AB202135 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Libya has just proved that it has no intention of leaving Chad alone, a country that is confronted by other problems, especially famine. Libya has just confirmed that the war it is imposing on Chad is not yet over. To prove the point, a Libyan reconnaissance plane, an Ilyushin-76, flew over government positions in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti region and at Biltine, specifically over the locality of Arada. This proves the glaring fact that Libya has no intention of leaving Chad alone.

Since the signing of the Franco-Libyan withdrawal agreement — and Chadian authorities have never stopped informing national and international opinion of this — instead of withdrawing its troops from Chad, as agreed in the accord, Tripoli has taken this opportunity to reinforce its positions in northern Chad with a view to another offensive in the south of the country. Libya has no respect whatsoever for this withdrawal agreement. The Libyan flight over government positions proves this.

Libya has no intention of withdrawing from Chad. On the contrary, it is still in the country. In other words, Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya has not released its expansionist hold on Chad, and the French-Libyan agreement has never been respected by the Libyan troops. Libyan planes flying over government positions is another proof of what Mr Gouara Lassou, the Chadian foreign and cooperation minister, feared when he said in Paris on his way back from Ethiopia, where he represented Chad at the 20th OAU summit, that Libya was getting ready to launch new attacks on southern Chad.

Despite the official statements to the contrary from Tripoli, we now know that the Libyan Government is really preparing new attacks against government forces. Otherwise what is the reason for flights of Libyan planes over the government positions. Since this statement by the Chadian foreign minister, Tripoli has always managed to deceive international opinion. By flying over the region south of the 16th parallel today, Tripoli has demonstrated that it has not for one moment given up its intention to conquer Chad in the framework of its plan to destabilize all the central African countries. This is the only explanation in our view of the actions and maneuvers of Al-Qadhdhafi's men.

Al-Qadhdhafi's disciples have spread through the media that Libyan troops have left Chad. Everybody knows that several thousand Libyan soldiers are stationed in the north of the country and that the Libyan Government has agreed to construct an airbase to the north, notably in (Sepra) and other Libyan areas.

It is certain that an offensive is being prepared against Chad. That is why, more than ever, Chadians should be mobilized to face the Libyan threat. Chadians know that Al-Qadhdhafi is not a man of honor. He has just proved that, if need be, he will scorn any commitment he makes. In the face of this new challenge by the colonel from Tripoli, the international community, countries which love justice and peace,as well as friendly countries, should help Chad disarm this enemy of the Chadian people.

The OAU and other international organizations should condemn the Libyan aggression against Chad, an aggression that constitutes an obstacle to the social, economic, and cultural development of that country, a country whose only desire is to have peace.

As for the Chadians themselves, in the face of this new threat — they have already proved it in the past — they must stand firm against Al-Qadhdhafi's ambitions, which are to destabilize the entire continent and not Chad alone. Just because Libya is proclaiming to the world that it has withdrawn from Chad does not mean that the real threat it poses to Chad has been removed.

100 Rebels Reported Killed in Eastern Province

AB211005 Paris AFP in English 0946 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, Dec 21 (AFP) — Chadian Government troops have killed "at least 100" anti-government rebels in clashes in the country's eastern province of Guera, a reliable source said here today. The source, who did not specify the date of the fighting, said the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) of President Hissein Habre had suffered only "light casualties" in the clashes and that calm had now returned to the region.

The main fighting took place in the localities of Bitkine and Mongo, south of the town of Ati, the source said. Guera Province, some 400 kilometers east of Ndjamena, is a stronghold of the Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR) and the opposition "First Army."

These two armed groups are members of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), the umbrella opposition grouping headed by former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei. Reconciliation talks had been going on in the region between the government forces and the two groups, but these were broken off for unknown reasons, the source said.

Bardai Criticizes Chad Readmission to UDEAC

AB202120 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] We have just learned about Chad's readmission to the Customs and Economic Union of Central African States [UDEAC]. On this subject, it will be necessary to recall the historical background to set the record straight. In fact, the process for the readmission of our country into this regional organization was undertaken in 1981 in Libreville by Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT].

Other measures were also taken at the time for Chad to fulfill its task within this economic grouping of Central African states. (?Since) 1982, the usurpers in Ndjamena have only illegally taken up the documents prepared by the GUNT on Chad's readmission.

What is scandalous about this today is that Chad, a country filled with fire and blood, should be reintegrated into the UDEAC. Politically and legally, the readmission of Chad into the organization is null and void because the minority group in Ndjamena has no mandate to act on behalf of Chad and its peoples.

Economically, the Brazzaville decision is senseless because the Chadian state, paralyzed by a general civil war, is not capable of dealing fairly with its partners of the subregion. Finally, coupled with this is the fact that the southern part of the country [words indistinct]. In view of all this, the reintegration of Chad into the UDEAC [words indistinct] is a cheap demagoguery.

GUNT's Oueddei Holds Press Conference

AB202056 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The press conference, which was to be held by Comrade President Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] and of the National Liberation Council [CNR], was finally held today, 20 December, at his residence in Faya-Abacha, 5 days [as heard] after it was scheduled to take place. This delay is due to difficulties encountered in transporting our colleagues from the international press.

The comrade head of state had in front of him representatives from JANA, TF-1, (first French television network), the BBC, AFP, the French newspaper *LIBERATION*, and, of course, the reporting crew of Radio Bardai. The comrade GUNT president held the press conference in the presence of (?six) members of the Chadian Government as well as his close military aides.

Goukouni: 'No French Observers'

AB210740 Paris AFP in English 0723 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Faya Largeau, Chad, Dec 21 (AFP) — No French observers will be allowed to inspect rebel-held areas of Chad despite Libyan leader Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi's proposal that they should go there to check that all Libyan troops have left, rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei said here Thursday.

France "is our enemy," he told a news conference, and it would not be allowed to spy on the military situation of the rebels while it was actively propping up the Ndjamena regime of President Hissein Habre. However, he would accept observers from Libya, Greece, or Syria "or any other neutral country," he said.

A team of French and Greek officers are in Tripoli waiting to enter northern Chad to check Libyan claims that all its troops have left under a Franco-Libyan agreement. Mr Goukouni said his forces, which would "free all of Chad," continued to get legitimate logistical help from Libya just as France was helping Mr Habre.

The rebel leader confirmed that one of his top aides, Acheck Ibn Oumar, had been arrested by rebel officials last November 4. But he would be freed soon because of Libya's protest against his detention, he said. Mr Goukouni denied that his Transitional National Union Government [words indistinct], but he said several leading figures had distanced themselves from it. However, their troops had remained loyal to the GUNT leadership, he stressed.

ZAIRE

Joint Commission Meeting With PRC Ends

AB201205 Dakar PANA in French 1019 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 20 Dec (AZAP/PANA) — The deliberations of the first session of the PRC-Zaire Joint Commission, which began on 15 December, ended on Wednesday, 19 December, at the Zairian Department of Foreign Affairs and International

Cooperation with the signing of an agreement formally establishing this joint commission, which examined the state of implementation of the agreements signed between Zaire and China.

According to the participants, the deliberations, which took place in an atmosphere of fruitful cooperation, friendship, and mutual understanding, led to concrete results bound to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries.

Zaire's delegation was led by Lengema Dulia, secretary of state for international cooperation, who stated that the holding in Kinshasa of this first session of the joint commission served to strengthen the cooperation between Zaire and China. The Chinese delegation was led by Zheng Tuobin, first vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade. The next meeting of the PRC-Zaire Joint Commission will be held in Beijing in 1986 at a date to be fixed.

GHANA

Information Secretary Reassigned; GNA Chief Fired

AB202240 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] In view of the restructuring of the Ministry of Information, Mr Adati-Morty [secretary for information] is being reassigned other duties. Therefore, he ceases to be a secretary of state.

In another development, the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has approved the termination of the appointment of Mr K.B. Brown, general manager of the GHANA NEWS AGENCY [GNA]. The chairman of the PNDC has also approved the reinstatement of Mr Bruce Micah as acting managing director of the State Housing Corporation.

Warrant Officer Adjei Boadi, who was formerly the coordinator for the Armed Forces Defense Committee and presently on terminal leave to his retirement, has relinquished his role and membership of the PNDC. At a meeting with council members in the Castle last Thursday, he indicated, at the instance of the chairman, his willingness to continue his loyal services in support of the national economic recovery effort.

Six Accra City Council Officials Dismissed

AB210915 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] An official statement issued last night said the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] has approved the immediate termination of the appointments of the following officials of the Accra City Council. They are: Mr A.T. Laye, city engineer; Mr Peter Anon, acting city engineer; Mr N.A. Armah, chief mechanical engineer; Mr Koffi, transport officer, mechanical engineer's unit; Mr (Amu Yarkey), city treasurer; and Mr Tamakloe, senior technical officer, city engineer's department.

LIBERIA

UPP Fulfills Financial Registration Requirements

AB202300 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Shortly after 5 pm this evening, an organizing committee from the proposed United People's Party [UPP] presented their financial requirements for registration at the special elections' headquarters on Alpha Street in Monrovia. It was led by the party leader, J. Bacchus Matthews, of the proposed UPP and it presented financial securities totalling $300,706.07.

The proposed party has been relatively quiet in the wake of the [word indistinct] on political activities; however, party leader Bacchus Matthews says this has been a deliberate move which has been conspicuous to the public. He however, told the [word indistinct] to declare a political truce.

MALI

Malaysia's Mahathir, Traore Sign Communique

BK181621 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Malaysia and Mali have expressed grave concern over the deterioration of the international political situation and the aggravation of the world economic system. In a joint communique, signed by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed and President General Moussa Traore and issued in Bamako today, they emphasized the need for stress at hearing the principle on nonaggression and nonuse of force in the conduct of international relations.

The communique expresses concern over the rising tension, conflicts, and intervention in the international affairs of sovereign states. On the economic situation in the increasing inequality of the international economic system, they are particularly disturbed by the low prices of primary commodities, excessive rise in interest rates, and fluctuation in the exchange rates. They voiced their concern over the rise in its [words indistinct] of developing countries and the persistent drought in Africa.

Malaysia and Mali also underlined the importance of developing countries to actively pursue South-South cooperation in the absence of positive response from the developed countries. They strongly expressed their determination to work to strengthen solidarity and cooperation among developing nations and to struggle against racism, apartheid, and Zionism.

Our correspondent Mokhtar Kadir says the joint communique also touched on Namibia, West Asia, the Palestine question, and condemned Zionist aggression in Lebanon. On Afghanistan, Malaysia and Mali expressed concern over the continuing state of tension caused by the crisis.

Earlier Datuk Dr Sri Mahathir and President Traore witnessed the signing of the agreement between the two countries to set up a joint Mali-Malaysia technical and economic committee. It was signed by the foreign minister, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, and his counterpart, Mr Alioune Blondin Beye. The prime minister and his delegation have, meanwhile, left Mali for Medina, Saudi Arabia, and Tengku Rithauddeen left for Sanaa, North Yemen, to attend the Islamic foreign ministers' meeting beginning today.

Sihanouk Expected 20 December for 5-Day Visit

AB210810 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk is expected in Bamako right now for a 5-day official visit to Mali. The president of Democratic Kampuchea will be welcomed at the Bamako-Senou International Airport by General Amadou Baba Diarra, the deputy secretary general of the party and minister of state for equipment.

NIGERIA

Gambari Criticizes U.S., UK on South Africa

AB201210 Lagos NAN in English 1140 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Lagos, Dec 20 (NAN) — The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, yesterday in Lagos called on African countries to evolve a suitable strategy to eradicate apartheid within South Africa so that the problem "does not confront us at our doorsteps." In an interview with a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN), Dr Gambari said that the South African Government was bent on widening its sphere of influence, saying that the Nkomati Accord and the non-aggression pact between Angola, Mozambique and South Africa was one of such moves. "Strategic reassessment of our borders demands that we re-equip to limit the activities of the apartheid government within its borders and deal with it there," he said.

The minister stated that the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan-African Congress (PAC) and other liberation movements as well as the OAU Liberation Committee should be assisted in every way to fight the apartheid South African Government. The frontline states should also be supported in concrete terms to consolidate their independence and "discourage further Nkomati accords," he added. "Nigeria is supporting them in very meaningful ways, but unlike before, we are not making any noise about it," he said.

The minister agreed that the actions of the governments of Prime Minister Thatcher of Britain and President Ronald Reagan of the U.S. had made progress on the issue difficult. "That Britain allowed Pik Botha to visit the country amounts to legitimising an illegitimate regime," the minister said, adding that it was this legitimacy that the South African prime minister carried over to the other West European countries he visited recently. He also said that America's "so-called constructive engagement policy with South Africa is more of carrot than stick," and that it had strengthened apartheid. "We are happy, however, that this is coming under considerable domestic pressure and one hopes that Reagan's second term in office will bring a rethinking," he said.

Dr Gambari commended the militancy of South African blacks, saying that in spite of agreements that had prevented them from operating in bases outside the country, they still carried out successful actions from within.

On recent negative reports on the Federal Military Government in some foreign press, Dr Gambari said that he was aware that "some segments of the British press don't wish us well." He said that he was not worried about this because the popular opinion of Nigerians was more important.

267 Diplomatic Personnel Return From Embassies

AB201955 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Two-hundred-and-sixty-seven officers in Nigeria's diplomatic missions abroad have so far returned home following the government's decision to close down some of the embassies and reduce staff. The external affairs minister, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, said in Lagos that some officers were allowed to remain after the end of the month to wind up official activities and close accounts.

Early this year, the Federal Government decided to close down 11 missions, including those in Ankara, Hamburg, Liverpool, Brazzaville, and Hong Kong for economic reasons. The government later reversed its decision to close down its offices in Brazzaville and Hong Kong, in line with "Africa is the center piece of Nigeria's foreign policy."

Dr Gambari said the country's image abroad had improved within the year and that Nigeria was no longer taken for granted. He, however, expressed concern about the behavior of some Nigerians abroad, particularly the drug peddlers.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Interviewed on Southern Africa Issues

MB200908 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT Dec 84

[Text] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos believes that the security of the borders and territory will always be threatened, as long as the Namibian problem is not solved under Resolution 435/78 of the UN Security Council, and the South African troops do not withdraw altogether from both Namibian territory and southern Angola.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who gave an interview to polish newspaper *TRYBUNA LUDU*, said the situation in southern Africa is (worsening?). In the Angolan president's opinion, this situation will continue as long as the government of racist South Africa persists in its apartheid policy and its destabilizing action against the countries in the region through both direct actions and mercenary groups that carry out armed banditry.

As long as this situation continues, our president clarified, the Angolan people will have no choice but to strengthen their defensive capabilities. In the diplomatic field, he said, Angola seeks fair peace solutions to be applied in southern Angola and in Namibia. At home, besides strengthening the people's vigilance and our defensive capability, our party and government want to guarantee the supply of basic goods to the population and provide access to education, health, and housing in a productive, just, and extensive manner.

Speaking on the future of the work of the party and government in the coming years, the president of the republic stressed reinforcing our party and strengthening its leading role throughout the nation. Referring to this issue, he stressed the purpose of the first MPLA-Labor Party National Conference scheduled for January 1985. This conference will assess the observance of the guidelines drawn up by the ordinary and extraordinary congresses and analyze the current development of the various party organizations, especially their grassroot bodies, as preparation for the next congress, which is expected to be held toward the end of 1985.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, still referring to prospects for the coming years, stressed the transformation from capitalist production methods, the development of production in agriculture, livestock raising, and the food industry, and the increase of production of resources that earn foreign currency, which will later be applied to economic and social investments for the benefit of the people.

Referring to relations between Angola and Poland, the head of state told *TRYBUNA LUDU* that they remain good, both at party and government level. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos expressed the belief that there are excellent prospects for broadening such relations.

Officials Accompany Dos Santos to Mozambique

MB201425 Luanda Domestic in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, this morning left for Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, where he will be on a friendly and working visit until tomorrow at the invitation of Field Marshal Samora Moises Machel, the chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The Angolan head of state is accompanied by Comrades Alexandre Rodrigues Kito, a member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior; Afonso Van Dunem Mbinda, and Antonio Jacinto, both members of the party Central Committee; and Lieutenant Colonel Gongo from the General Staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. Senior officials from the office of the president are also included in the presidential delegation.

Delegation Attends Central African Summit

MB201510 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Our country is taking part in the summit of the Central African states economic community in Brazzaville. The Angolan delegation comprises Ismael Martins, the minister of foreign trade; Dombele Bernardo, the Angolan ambassador accredited to Gabon; and (?Eugenio Sebastiao), the director of trade in the Ministry of Foreign Trade. The delegation is led by Comrade Pascual Luvualu, a member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party.

Operations Against UNITA 'Bandits' Cited

7 UNITA 'Bandits' Killed

MB201027 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 19 Dec 84

[Text] Seven UNITA bandits were killed, one captured, and various war materiel seized during offensives launched in several provinces of Angola between 23 November and 4 December. According to ANGOP reports today, 10 civilians who were forced to live with UNITA bandits were released and 373 huts that provided shelter for the criminals were totally destroyed in the municipalities of Dala in Lunda Sul and Chitembo in Bie Province.

On the vigorous actions of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers against the UNITA criminal bandits, we received a report from Malanje, from where we broadcast now:

[Unidentified reporter] Our security and defense forces continue to inflict devastating blows on the UNITA puppet groups, causing their annihilation. On the day before yesterday, according to a military source, during a clash between our Armed Forces and UNITA forces 19 km from the municipality of Mutembe in

Cuanza Sul Province, the firepower of our glorious FAPLA combatants left four enemy dead, including an official.

The enemy also abandoned the following war materiel: 1 super G-3, 3 G-3's, 1,360 rounds of ammunition, 1 RPG-7, 18 G-3 rifle magazines, 3 AK rifle magazines, and 2 grenades. According to the same source, our Armed Forces continued their pursuit of this counterrevolutionary group, thus demonstrating our firm determination to combat and annihilate these criminal groups, through which international imperialism tries to impede and delay the development of our country and the gains already obtained by our people.

FAPLA Forces Kill 38

MB210936 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] The Angolan defense and security forces annihilated 38 UNITA bandits in operations carried out between 5 and 10 December. The bandits were active in several areas of the Huambo, Bie, and Cunene provinces. During the operations launched by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], three UNITA members, as well as an assortment of war materiel, were captured, and 76 civilians kept under the yoke of the bandits were released.

Most of the operations occurred in Huambo Province, where 34 UNITA criminals were killed in 3 days of combat. Three other bandits were also captured and 55 peasants released. In Bie and Cunene provinces, FAPLA forces released 130 civilians on 7 and 10 December. Nine bandits of the UNITA puppet group were captured.

BOTSWANA

Joint RSA Team To Study Namibia Border

MB201300 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Botswana and South Africa held talks yesterday in Pretoria and decided to send a joint team to survey an area along the Chobe River, which was the scene of a shooting incident in October this year when a South African Defense Force patrol strayed into Botswana territory. The Botswana Defense Force [BDF] fired on a boat carrying South African forces along a small trench of the Chobe River around the Kasane area. The area, known as (Kasikili) or Sidudu island, is on the Botswana side of the border between this country and the Caprivi Strip, Namibia, a territory adminstered by South Africa.

The secretary for external affairs, Mr Geoffrey Garebamono, said in an interview this morning that the South Africans were using maps that were different from those used by authorities in Botswana and there had been a difference of judgment.

According to a treaty signed between Britain and Germany in 1890, specifying the border line between the territories of the two countries, the main channel of the Chobe River, often referred to as the (?Linyadi), forms the border between Botswana and the Caprivi Strip, Namibia. Botswana and South Africa recognize the stipulations of the treaty.

According to Mr Garebamono, the South African patrol had followed the small channel of the Chobe, which forms the (Kasikili) island and the BDP fired on the intruders because they were in Botswana territory, but the South Africans thought they were right because of the difference in the maps being used. According to South African maps, the small channel of the Chobe River forms the border, but this would be contrary to the 1890 treaty.

The survey team sent by the two neighbors will report back to their governments for further discussions. At the Pretoria talks were Mr Garebamono; the attorney general, Mr Moleleki Mokama; a BDF representative; and an official from the Department of Surveys and Lands.

Briefs

Australian Drought Relief Aid — The government of Botswana has received close to 300,000 pula from Australia to be used in the drought relief program. It was presented to the minister of finance and development planning by the first secretary of the Australian high commission. The Australian Government had previously granted a total of 230,000 dollars to the government for the same purpose. [Excerpts] [*Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 19 Dec 84 MB*]

MOZAMBIQUE

Dos Santos Arrives in Maputo for Talks With Machel

Ceremony Displays 'Bandits,' Weapons

MB202030 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos arrived in Maputo early in the afternoon and was received at the airport by Field Marshal Samora Machel, the leader of the Mozambican revolution. A few hours after the start of the visit by his Angolan counterpart, President Samora Machel said at the opening session of the talks: We want to examine how we can eliminate this plague.

A short while later, at Costa do Sol, a ceremony was held in which armed bandits who were captured or who have surrendered, as well as war materiel captured by the Mozambican Armed Forces from those criminals, was presented. Among the materiel exhibited was some of South African and also Western origin. The eminent guest and his entourage could also appreciate fake weapons made from wood, which were used during the night for assaults on houses and to pillage through intimidation.

Air Force Commander Major-General Hama Thai, who presented the materiel being exhibited and the captured armed bandits, referred in particular to the marijuana smoked by the bandits before the criminal actions and to certain types of equipment of a subversive nature, such as plastique, a powerful

explosive. Plastique is used quite often by the armed bandits to boobytrap a radio, which is then abandoned. Some 75 grams of this product are enough to kill a person. The explosive is utilized to destroy railroads. Antivehicle and antipersonnel mines were also captured by our forces and shown today to the Angolan presidential delegation.

During the ceremony, a group of 150 armed bandits were presented to the Angolan president. Some of them were captured and others had surrendered to our authorities. From the answers to the question posed by both the Angolan and Mozambican presidents, the criminal nature of the armed bandits in our country was again proven. The bandits told of Israeli involvement, as instructors for the bandits, as well as evidence of South African support. Two bandits revealed that they went to South Africa by ship, and another was brought to the country by helicopter, all before the Nkomati Accord.

Like Mozambique, Angola is also affected by this plague called armed banditry, which is preventing harmonious development and peace. Thus, the visit of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is a normal, regular, and necessary meeting between two brothers, as President Samora Machel said in the beginning of the talks.

Talks Begin

MB202020 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The presidents of Angola and Mozambique began talks in Maputo today on the problems created in the two countries by terrorists and their foreign backers. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos flew into Maputo this afternoon for a 2-day visit at the invitation of President Samora Machel.

At the begining of talks this afternoon, President Samora Machel said the agenda was the armed bandits in Angola and Mozambique and their mentors and creators. President Machel said that both countries were suffering from disasters, both natural and [words indistinct], he said. Both governments were fighting against terrorist organizations sponsored by foreign interests. The South African authorities are the mainstay of the UNITA gang in Angola, and Pretoria also armed and trained Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] bandits in Mozambique.

Despite the Nkomati nonaggression pact of last March, MNR [Renamo] banditry in Mozambique has continued and organizations and individuals in South Africa are known to be still supporting the terrorists. Angola negotiated a South African troop withdrawal from its territory last February, but the South African Armed Forces are still occupying part of southern Angola.

Taking part in the talks, which began today in Maputo, are some of the top Angolan and Mozambican negotiators who have taken part in talks with South Africa over the past year. Those include Lieutenant-General Jacinto Veloso of Mozambique and Lieutenant-Colonel Alexandre Rodrigues of Angola. Before the start of today's talks, the Angolan delegation was taken to see captured MNR terrorists, and their arms and ammunition.

USSR Consul Visits Governor of Nampula Province

MB210655 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Nampula Governor Feliciano Gundana recently received the USSR consul in Mozambique, who was in that province to assess the role played by Soviet guest workers in the reconstruction of our country. Our Nampula correspondent reports that on the occasion Feliciano Gundana stated, "We acknowledge the participation of Soviet guest workers in the national reconstruction and express our gratitude for the heartfelt esteem and friendship of the Soviet people toward Mozambique."

On the occasion, the USSR consul presented the governor of Nampula with gifts marking the end of the year. The Soviet consul in Mozambique arrived in Nampula from Niassa Province, where he had been on a similar mission.

NAMIBIA

RSA Awaiting Angolan Input for JMC Meeting

MB201042 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1033 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Windhoek, Dec 20, SAPA — South Africa was still awaiting a response from the Angolan Government to set a date for a high-level meeting on the future of the two countries' Joint Monitoring Commission (JMC), the officer commanding the SWA Territory Force, Major-General George Meiring, said in Windhoek today.

South Africa had already declared itself prepared to move its troops farther southwards in Angola "despite certain incidents," Gen Meiring told a media conference. At the last high-level meeting of the JMC it had appeared that the next move should be left for a decision at a cabinet-level meeting of the two governments. The date and time had to be determined by Angola. "They have not even contacted us yet to set a date."

Gen Meiring said that since the formation of the JMC on February 16 this year, 95 violations of the Lusaka agreement had been registered after investigation and acknowledgement by both JMC components. South Africa was blamed for three of the incidents.

Despite the Lusaka Accord, SWAPO was continuing preparations in the zone south of the JMC headquarters for the coming summer infiltration of SWA/Namibia. The preparations included the secreting of arms and equipment in the territory and reconnaissance, and "yesterday two terrorists were shot and killed in the region south of the JMC" in Angola.

Although the JMC was slowing down SWAPO's incursion plans, it could not completely cut off the organisation's armed wing from SWA/Namibia. SWAPO was using all possible means, including Angola's FAPLA Army, to complement its logistical lines. "FAPLA still has a problem to exercise proper control over SWAPO, but whether it is because of incapability or unwillingness is not always clear," Gen Meiring said.

Security Force Commander Discusses Year's Events

MB201314 Johannesburg Dometic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] It has revealed in Windhoek that 21 SWAPO terrorists were killed for every one member of the Security Forces that died in the operational area over the past year. The officer commanding the South-West Africa Territory Force, Major General George Meiring, said at a news conference in the South-West African capital that a feature of the year had been the successes achieved by the Security Forces.

Gen Meiring said that without taking into account Operation Askari, 566 terrorists had been killed since the beginning of the year. Twenty-six members of the Security Forces had died during the same period.

Gen Meiring described as ineffective the SWAPO attempts to cross the so-called red line. He said that 21 terrorists, of whom 14 had inflitrated the territory from Botswana, had been tracked down and killed in the area south of Kaokoland, Ovambo, and Kavango. Incidents of sabotage had doubled since last year to 94. SWAPO terrorists had also killed 159 civilians.

Gen Meiring said the flow of information from the public to the Security Forces had increased dramatically since last year. Referring to the medical treatment to the civilan population by members of the Territory Force, the general said that 228,000 civilians had received treatment. About 140,000 rand had been spent on mercy flights to assist the civilian population in emergencies.

The Territory Force had a troop strength of 19,000 men and this could be doubled within a day. The force had been increased by 3,000 this year and comprised roughly 60 percent of the security forces in the operational area.

SADF Denies Holding Rebellious UNITA Officer

MB210528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] The SADF has denied that it is holding a commander of the Angola UNITA movement. The denial follows a report by the Portuguese news agency, which says a UNITA leader, Commander (Bakulu Kuta), has been detained by the South African military authorities.

According to the Portuguese report, the commander had rebelled and threatened to join SWAPO, together with the 3,000 soldiers under his command. A military spokesman in Pretoria said the Defense Force was aware of the report and he had no further comment on the matter.

SOUTH AFRICA

Further Reportage on Police Confiscating Tapes

UK Demands Explanation for Raid

MB200744 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The British Foreign Office has called in South Africa's charge d'affaires in London to demand an explanation for the police raid on the Johannesburg office of Independent Television News [ITN] of Britian. A Foreign Office statement issued in London said the acting head of the South African Embassy in London, while the ambassador is on leave, Mr Leo Evans, has been summoned to a meeting with the head of the Southern African Department, Mr Anthony Reeve.

It said Mr Reeve sought an urgent explanation of the reasons for the action. Mr Evans said after the meeting that he had explained to Mr Reeve that the South African Police had acted within their legal power carrying a warrant to search the office of ITN in Johannesburg. The London headquarters of ITN says that a protest would be launched with the South African Embassy.

Police Return All But 2 Tapes

MB201110 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1045 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 20, SAPA — Security police officers who yesterday raided the Johannesburg office of a British television news agency, Independent Television News (ITN), today returned all but 2 of 33 video cassettes they took away with them.

A spokesman for ITN said today that one of the cassettes contained an interview with Mrs Ela Ramgobin, the granddaughter of India's Mahatma Gandhi, and an official of the anti-government Natal India Congress. The other was a preview of the Indian election for the new constitution earlier this year. This had been produced by a crew sent out from Britain by commercial television's Channel Four network.

All the tapes taken by the police in the raid yesterday had been news items of events in South Africa this year. The ITN spokesman said that this was the first time in ITN's history that one of its offices — including those in East European countries — had ever been raided by state security police.

Police Explain Actions

MB201707 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] In Pretoria, the public relations division of the police has said the search of the ITN office was undertaken to facilitate the investigation of a high treason offense, as well as the possible contravention of Section 54 of the Internal Security Act. The division says the aim of the search was to obtain evidence. It did not necessarily mean any of the people connected to the television network were implicated in the offenses.

Parliament Members, ANC 'To Hold Talks' in Lusaka

MB210826 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English
23 Dec p 1

["From The Press Trust of SA"]

[Text] Four National Party members of parliament will travel to Lusaka in January to hold talks with the African National Congress. The names of the MPs have not been released — but the trip follows recent reports that the South African Government is preparing the white community — especially Afrikners — for a possible meeting of the outlawed liberation movement.

A Dutch diplomat visiting SA this week confirmed that four MPs will be sent by the National Party to talk to the ANC early in January. The diplomat said it seemed the government was now serious about opening dialogue with the ANC, which was banned in 1961.

"Pretoria realises there can never be peace and development in South Africa while organisations such as the ANC are ignored. The government realises the ANC commands a great deal of support among the black people and among some whites. It therefore wants to create the right climate for talks with the organisation's leadership," he said.

United Democratic Front publicity secretary Terror Lekota agreed, saying it was a "sensible thing" for the government to do. "We have always maintained that the government must start talking to the black leaders and organisations who really matter. In South African politics there is no way organisations such as the ANC can be ignored. We sincerely hope the government starts negotiating with the ANC so that a climate of goodwill can be created."

This week's development follows a recent visit to Lusaka by senior Afrikaans journalist Piet Muller, to interview the ANC.

Rapport editor Wimpie de Klerk has called for the government to talk to imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela, and Potchefstroom University Professor Ben van der Walt urged the government to talk to "extra-paliamentary organisations" such as the UDF and the ANC.

ANC Denies Report

MB211321 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] The ANC has rejected a story of January talks in Lusaka with four National Party members of parliament. A South African newspaper carried the story this morning but, as Howard Barrell reports, the ANC denies it is true:

[Barrell] An ANC spokesman in Lusaka said it appears that the speculative report in today's *CITY PRESS* had been fuelled by the recent visit to Lusaka by senior *BEELD* journalist Piet Muller. No talks were planned at all, the ANC spokesman said.

Observers here point out that the membership of the ANC is currently preparing for a major consultative conference early next year. According to reliable sources, the main business of the conference will be how to step up the political and armed struggle against apartheid. Talks with the Botha government, or any unofficial government emmisaries, is not on the agenda at all.

Opinion Split on ANC Talks

MB210833 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0800 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] South African whites appear to be split down the middle on the question of talks between the government and the ANC. The ANC has been banned in South Africa for the past 2 decades and is currently waging a guerrilla war in the country. (Manu Padiachy) takes a look at some of the findings in a survey conducted by the Human Sciences Research Council:

[(Padiachy)] Forty-three percent of the whites questioned favor government negotiations with the ANC. Forty-four percent were against the idea. The question posed was: Are you in favor of the South African Government negotiating with the ANC over the solution to the race problems in South Africa? The breakdown of responses shows that about 15 percent were definitely in favor, 28 percent in favor, 26 percent against, 18 percent definitely against, and about 13 percent were uncertain or did not know.

Other results of the survey show that nearly 75 percent of the respondents did not agree that only equal political rights for blacks would end the unrest in black townships, which 71 percent agreed would happen again. The majority of the respondents also did not see the low percentage poll in the Indian and Colored elections as a rejection of the new constitution. The low polls, they said, were the results of intimidation or boycotts and ignorance and apathy.

UDF President Hospitalized For Diabetes

MB201938 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The president of the United Democratic Front [UDF] is apparently suffering from acute diabetes. The UDF official, Mr Archie Gumede, has been taken to St Augustine's Hospital in Durban.

Gumede as been in custody since his arrest outside the British Consulate in Durban, where he had staged a 3-month-long sit-in. UDF officials say security police have allowed Gumede's lawyer and his wife to visit him, but not the rest of his family.

Gumede is due to appear in court tomorrow on charges of treason. The officials said the hearing, which will go ahead in his absence, will determine whether or not to set bail, and to set a date for the trial.

UNITA Strength Cited; Angola Talks Urged

MB200815 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Station commentary: "UNITA and Angola"]

[Text] The war in Angola between the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] forces for Dr Jonas Savimbi and the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] and Cuban forces fighting for the MPLA-Labor government appears to be increasing in intensity. For the first time UNITA has sabotaged Luanda's power supplies and UNITA claims that its forces are now beginning to close around Luanda.

Certainly it is time that the Angolan Government began examining closely the problem it is facing and the options open to it for resolving this problem. Despite the best efforts of Angola's FAPLA forces, bolstered by some 30,000 Cubans, the charismatic Dr Jonas Savimbi's UNITA movement is expanding its power daily. In more than one third of the country UNITA has no opposition. Its fighting force of some 35,000 men is growing at the rate of 2,000 a year and is capable today of waging a semi-conventional war, taking it out of the category of a mere guerrilla group.

The impact UNITA is having on the Angola scene was recently underlined by the British minister of state responsible for Africa at the Foreign Office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind. Following a visit to Luanda he remarked that the conflict in Angola had assumed the level of a substantial civil war. The effect of this is that today virtually the whole of Angola is destabilized and the MPLA-Labor government finds itself in the embarrassing position of being propped up by foreign forces.

The situation confronting the MPLA-Labor government, therefore, is the following. Either it continues with the war, which it cannot win, or it makes a decision to negotiate with UNITA with a view to reaching accommodation.

In no way could such negotiations be regarded as capitulation to terrorism. It should be recalled that UNITA was one of three political parties to whom the Portuguese handed over power when they hastily departed from Angola, which means that UNITA has a legitimate right to have a voice in the running of the country.

The biggest danger confronting the MPLA is that the stage would be reached when UNITA is no longer prepared to negotiate a settlement. However, even if UNITA does emerge victorious from the war, that does not necessarily solve Angola's problems.

The situation could arise when UNITA sits in Luanda and the MPLA takes to the bush. There is only one solution to Angola's problems: negotiations between UNITA and the MPLA as soon as possible.

SWAZILAND

Ministry Orders ANC Member to Leave Country

MB210712 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 21 Dec 84 pp 1, 5

[By Mbuso Matsenjwa and Donny Nxumalo]

[Excerpt] The African National Congress [ANC] representative in Swaziland, Mr Bafana Duma, has been told to leave the country. Mr Duma was given up to tomorrow to "wind up" his business and he is believed to be leaving for Lusaka, Zambia, on Saturday.

The commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, yesterday said the order was issued by the Ministry of Interior, which is responsible for refugees in the country. The Interior Ministry was unavailable for comment yesterday on Mr Duma's departure.

ANC Urged To Report

MB201900 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1605 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, today appealed to members of the ANC presently living in the country illegally and unregistered to come out from their hiding places and report to the police with immediate effect.

Addressing a press conference in his office this afternoon, the police commissioner said this appeal was also given to those Swazi citizens and non-Swazi citizens who were either knowingly or unknowingly staying with or harboring members of the ANC to bring them forward to the authorities for normal processing. Mr Simelane said this order also applied to those unregistered ANC personalities who were hiding around the kingdom to report themslves to the authorities immediately.

He said any of those people referred to who will still remain in hiding and disregard this order to come out, will be regarded as common criminals who were hiding for sinister reasons against the kingdom, and will be handled as such by being prosecuted and deported to their countries of origin.

The police commissioner said Swazi citizens and other custodians of these people who would still fail to comply with this order should know that drastic steps will be taken against them and that they will be held responsible for any damages, incidents, or injuries that might occur to their persons, their families, or their properties should the unfortunate circumstances prevail whereby these people have to be apprehended by force.

Former Minister Returns to Jail Cell

MB210601 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 21 Dec 84 p 19

[Text] The former minister of finance, Mr Sishayi Nxumalo, who was being treated at Mbabane Clinic, has been discharged. Dr Nxumalo was discharged yesterday and the authorities at the

clinic confirmed that his condition is satisfactory. The police chief, Mr Majaji Simelane, said that Dr Nxumalo will go back to his Pigg's Peak cell.

"We have not finished questioning Dr Nxumalo and we still have to get the information we want from him before his release," he said. Dr Nxumalo was suffering from an undisclosed illness. He was reported to be under intensive guard during his discharge from the clinic yesterday.

ZAMBIA

Assembly Speaker Hosts Dinner for PRC Delegates

MB200737 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] Speaker of the National Assembly Robinson Nabulyato told the visiting standing committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC that he hoped their visit to Zambia had given them firsthand information about the problems that Zambia was facing. Dr Nabulyato said in particular he hoped the visiting Chinese delegation had, through their talks with the party secretary general, Humphrey Mulemba, Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia, Minister of Finance Luke Mwananshiku, and Chairman of the Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Francis Kaunda, been able to gauge the political and economic situation in the country.

Dr Nabulyato was speaking at a farewell dinner he held for visiting vice chairman of the standing committee of the National People's Congress, Huang Hua, and his delegation at the Intercontinental Hotel last night.

Dr Nabulyato once again thanked China for the massive assis tance that she has accorded to the country and commended the exchange of visits between the two countries, noting that such visits could only serve to strengthen relations, not only between the two countries, but also between the two parliaments.

In reply, the Chinese delegation leader, Huang Hua, hailed Zambia for her stand against colonialism, apartheid, and all other forms of evil and hoped their visit to Zambia would further strengthen the already good relationship between the two countries. He expressed concern over the simmering tension between the two world powers that was threatening the world. Mr Huang further expressed his country's appreciation of Zambia's efforts to enable the PRC regain its UN seat.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe, Officials Depart for Burundi PTA Summit

MB201434 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 20 Dec 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, is on his way to Burundi to attend a 2-day meeting of the authorities of the Preferential Trade Area, PTA, for eastern and southern African countries, which starts tomorrow. Comrade Mugabe, who is the current chairman of the PTA, will pass on the leadership to the president of Burundi, Mr Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, after the deliberations. The prime minister is accompanied by Comrades Richard Hove, Kumbirai Kangai, Moton Malianga, and other government officials.

Briefs

Kuwait Oil Pact — Zimbabwe and Kuwait have signed an agreement in which the Arab state will supply Zimbabwe with a large portion of its petroleum needs over a period of 12 months. The agreement was signed in Harare today by the managing director of the national oil corporation of Zimbabwe, Comrade (Mark Zaranyika), and sales manager responsible for international marketing in the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, (Mr Hussein al Shammar). The agreement follows negotiations started in Kuwait a few months ago when the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, led a delegation to that country. The permanent secretary in the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and Development, Mr (Donald Bath), said the agreement ensured for Zimbabwe a reliable source of petroleum products and also assures Kuwait a reliable customer. [Text] [*Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Dec 84 MB*]